

U. S. Department of Justice

(MATERIAL MUST NOT BE REMOVED FROM OR ADDED TO THIS FILE)

F. O. I. P. A.

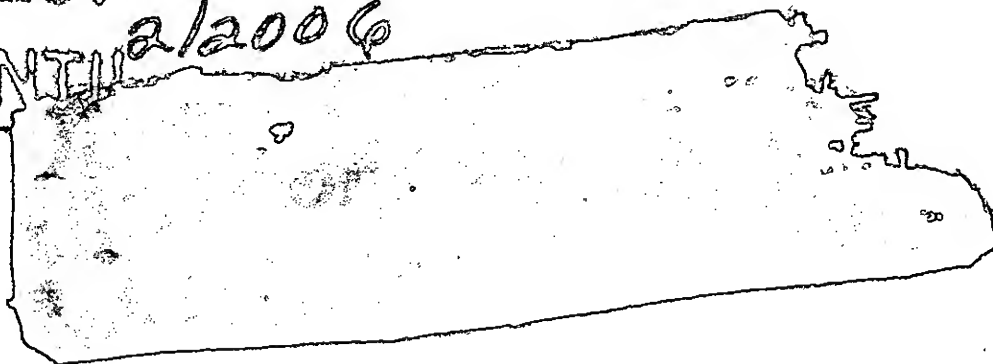
REQUEST

DO NOT DESTROY UNTIL 1-27-83

FEDERAL BUREAU

REQUEST See 190-JN-26834

DO NOT DESTROY UNTIL 2/2006



Screened By: James
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INVESTIGATION

Bureau File Number

44-38861

FOI/PA

DO NOT DESTROY SERIAL 423

PRIOR TO 6/2005

FILE 190-JN-26213

See also Nos. 157-9586-571 Newspapers

157-9586-572 Orig 302's

Separate 1A Vol-

CLASSIFICATION NO.

157-9586

Volume Number

9

Serials

410 - 453

Quaddler 4-5-68

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE JACKSON	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MEMPHIS	DATE 5/2/68	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 4/10 - 4/24/68
TITLE OF CASE JAMES EARL RAY, aka - FUGITIVE IO # 4182, WF # 442-A, TOP TEN FUGITIVE; Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. (DECEASED) - VICTIM		REPORT MADE BY SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER	TYPED BY clm
		CHARACTER OF CASE CR - CONSPIRACY; UFAC - ROBBERY	

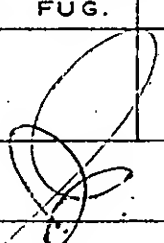
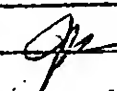
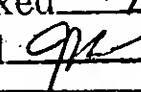
REFERENCE:

Memphis report of SA JOE C. HESTER, 4/30/68.

- P -

LEAD:JACKSONAT JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

Will continue efforts to locate JAMES EARL RAY. All leads being handled immediately upon receipt.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED						ACQUIT- TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		
							PENDING OVER ONE YEAR <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
APPROVED 						SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	
COPIES MADE: 5 - Bureau (44-38861)						DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW	
(Continued on Cover Page B)						157-9586-453	
						Searched _____ Serialized  Indexed _____ Filed 	
② - Jackson (157-9586)							
Dissemination Record of Attached Report						Notations	
Agency							
Request Recd.							
Date Fwd.							
How Fwd.							
By							

JN 157-9586

(Copies continued)

- 2 - Atlanta (44-2386)
 - 2 - Birmingham (44-1740)
 - 1 - Kansas City
 - 2 - Los Angeles (44-1574)
 - 5 - Memphis (44-1987)
 - 2 - Mobile (157-2627)
 - 2 - New Orleans
 - 1 - St. Louis
-

COVER PAGE

B

JN 157-9586

ADMINISTRATIVE:

The Jackson Division, at the outset of this matter, conducted investigation concerning the names ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER and JOHN WILLARD in Federal agencies, state and local agencies, with negative results.

All credit and arrest agencies in the 82 counties in Mississippi were contacted. All city directories and telephone directories were checked. Selective Service System, State Office, as well as each local board, county voter registration records, county Departments of Public Welfare, county Tax Assessor Offices, county Clerks of Court, each county, marriage and divorce records, Bureau of Vital Statistics, Board of Health, Workmen's Compensation and Employment Security Commissions, all utility companies, electricity, gas and telephone, financial institutions, registrar's office in major universities, Port Director, Gulfport, Mississippi, all shrimp boat operators in the Gulf Coast area, all barge and towing companies at river ports at Greenville, Vicksburg and Natchez, Mississippi, were checked. One million, two hundred thousand drivers licenses checked through IBM computer concerning the birth date 7/20/31, all of the above with negative results.

All airports, motel and parking garage facilities in Mississippi were checked in an attempt to locate a 1966 white Mustang with negative results.

All dancing schools or academies were checked. Civilian personnel records, Keesler AFB, Biloxi, checked with negative results.

COVER PAGE

C

JN 157-9586

Ingalls Shipyard at Pascagoula, Mississippi, checked with negative results.

All criminal and racial informants contacted with negative results.

Whereabouts of each major bombing suspect in the State of Mississippi checked and verified to eliminate as possible suspects.

In addition to the above, numerous lookalikes reported to the Jackson Office were located, interviewed and eliminated as possible suspects.

All of the above information has been reviewed, indexed, and filed in the Jackson Office.

For the sake of brevity, negative type information is not being set out in this report.

No copies of this report are being disseminated outside the Bureau; however, sufficient copies of report being furnished to the OO in the event of future dissemination.

COVER PAGE

D*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Copy to:

Report of: SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER
Date: May 2, 1968

Office: JACKSON

Field Office File #: JN 157-9586

Bureau File #: 44-38861

Title: JAMES EARL RAY;
Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.
(DECEASED) - VICTIMCharacter: CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID CONFINEMENT - ROBBERY

Synopsis:

Motels and Standard service stations on major highways in North Central and Northeastern section of State of Miss. contacted in attempt to identify individual depicted in artist conception of ERIC STARVO GALT, also known as Harry Lowmeyer, John Willard. Color photo received from Memphis FBI Office of a bedspread and bath towel exhibited to personnel at motels in attempt to identify as being property of the particular motel with negative results. Investigation at Southaven Minnow Shop, Highway 51, Southaven, Miss., just south of the Tenn. State Line, disclosed this shop is the only establishment located which handled Schlitz 12-ounce beer in pop-top cans, as well as Homestead Stubby No. 20, brown paper bags. One empty Schlitz beer can and one brown paper bag obtained from Southaven Minnow Shop and forwarded to FBI Lab., Washington, D. C., for examination purposes. Results of FBI Lab. examination discloses brown paper bag similar in all observable characteristics to paper bag previously submitted. Personnel at minnow shop unable to identify artist conception and unable to identify photo of JAMES EARL RAY as depicted on Wanted Flyer No. 442-A. IN VIEW OF THE CRIME FOR WHICH SUBJECT BEING SOUGHT, HE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

- P -

DETAILS:

JN 157-9586

JWS/bls

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA JAMES W. SAMMON:

On the dates indicated, motels and Standard Service Stations on the below listed major highways in north central and northeastern portion of the State of Mississippi were contacted in this matter. Personnel at motels were exhibited composite drawings of ERIC STARVO GALT, also known as John Willard, Harvey Lowmeyer, received from the Memphis and Birmingham Divisions, along with a color photograph of a bedspread and bath towel received from the Memphis Division. Personnel at these motels failed to identify the composite photographs of GALT, as well as the bedspread or towel as property of their particular motel. The guest registration cards of motels contacted were personally checked by SA JAMES W. SAMMON from the period of March 29 to April 5, 1968, inclusive in an effort to determine if any guest using the name GALT, WILLARD, or LOWMEYER registered at that motel. These checks met with negative results.

Standard Service Stations on the indicated highways were also contacted and personnel at those service stations were also exhibited artist's conceptions of GALT, along with the colored photographs of the Standard Oil map of the United States and the Standard Oil map of Georgia - Alabama. Personnel at these service stations were questioned regarding a 1966 white Mustang with an Alabama tag. Contacts at these service stations also met with negative results.

April 10, 1968 - Highway 55 Interstate and Highway 51, north from Batesville, Mississippi, to the Tennessee State Line. Highway 78 southeast from the Tennessee State Line to the City Limits of Holly Springs, Mississippi.

April 11, 1968 - Highways 78, 6, and 45 within the City Limits of Tupelo, Mississippi. Highway 45 north from Tupelo, Mississippi, to Corinth, Mississippi. Highways 45

and 72 within the City Limits of Corinth, Mississippi.

April 12, 1968 - Highway 78 East from Tupelo, Mississippi, to the Alabama State Line. Highway 45 South from Tupelo, Mississippi, to Columbus, Mississippi. Highway 82 East from Mayhew, Mississippi, to the Alabama State Line. Highways 82 and 45 East within the City Limits of Columbus, Mississippi.

April 13, 1968 - Highway 82 West from Columbus, Mississippi, to Winona, Mississippi. Highway 51 North from Winona, Mississippi, to Grenada, Mississippi. Interstate 55 and Highway 51 North from Grenada, Mississippi, to Batesville, Mississippi.

April 16, 1968 - Highway 72 from the Alabama State Line to the Tennessee State Line. Highway 78 Southeast from Holly Springs, Mississippi, to Tupelo, Mississippi.

April 17, 1968, Highway 45 East from Shannon, Mississippi, to Columbus, Mississippi. Highway 278 East from Highway 45 East from New Wren, Mississippi, to the Alabama State Line. Highway 6 West from Tupelo, Mississippi, to Batesville, Mississippi. The notes from contacts with personnel at motels and Standard Oil Service Stations are being maintained in the Jackson file regarding this matter.

The following motels affiliated with Friendship Inns were contacted on the indicated dates and personnel there were interviewed as set forth above and in addition, the color photograph containing the Friendship Inn Cashmere Bouquet soap wrapper was exhibited with negative results.

MARY MILTON, Registration Clerk, Townhouse Motel, Friendship Inn, Highway 45 South, Tupelo, Mississippi, which motel uses Camay soap with Friendship Inn wrapper, on April 11, 1968.

Mrs. BROOKS PHILLIPS, Southern Motel, Friendship Inn, Corinth, Mississippi, which motel does handle Cashmere Bouquet with Friendship Motel wrapper, on April 11, 1968.

However, Southern Motel was negative on photographs of GALT; negative on bedspread; and negative on bath towel.

Mrs. ANNIE LOUISE HUDSON, Marshall Motel, Friendship Inn, Highway 45 North, West Point, Mississippi, contacted April 12, 1968.

WILLIAM DOVES, Registration Clerk, Columbus Motel, Friendship Inn, Highway 82 East, Columbus, Mississippi, does not use soap wrapped with Friendship paper, contacted April 12, 1968.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES W. SAMMON on April 15, 1968, in the Southaven, Mississippi, area, Highway 51, south of the Tennessee State Line in Mississippi.

The following dealer outlets in that area were contacted in an effort to determine if they had any twelve-ounce Schlitz pop-top beer cans with the brewery date of March 15, 1968, which was sold by them in six packs held with a plastic ring. The following beer outlets in that area were contacted on April 15, 1968, with negative results:

SHIRLEY JERET, Stop and Go Store, Highway 51 South. MARY SNELL, Cashier, BILL RAGLAND, Manager, and LESTER ENOCHS, Stock Man, A and P Supermarket, Highway 51 South, Southaven, Mississippi.

BILL BEALE, Seven Eleven Store, Highway 51 South, Southaven, Mississippi.

MARY DRUMMOND, Drummond Drive-Inn, Highway 51 South, Southaven, Mississippi.

The composite photographs of GALT from Memphis and Birmingham were also exhibited to the above individuals at beer outlets in Southaven, Mississippi, with negative results.

In contacting motels on Highway 51 North on April 10, 1968, RAYMOND ROBINSON, owner of the Thrift Courts Motel

at Senatobia, Mississippi, advised that for the past three or four weeks, a white male, name unknown, 25 to 30 years old, had been staying at that motel. ROBINSON said that this individual is employed in Stray Horn, Mississippi, on Highway 4 where he is employed constructing a water tower. ROBINSON said that this individual drives a white Mustang with an Alabama license.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/22/68

1

DONALD DICKSON was located in Stray Horn, Mississippi, at the sight of the construction of a water tower. DICKSON said that he has been in the Senatobia, Mississippi, area for the past three weeks and that he is employed for R. D. Cole Manufacturing Company of Newnan, Georgia, which company constructs water towers. DICKSON said he has been so employed for the past nine years and is a foreman of that company.

DICKSON said that on April 4, 1968, he was in bed asleep at the Thrift Courts Motel in Senatobia, Mississippi, when one of his employees came into the room advising him that Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot and killed in Memphis, Tennessee. DICKSON said that an employee, TOM CANNON, and DOUG IVEY can vouch for his presence at the motel when KING was assassinated. DICKSON said that his 1967 white Mustang automobile was parked at the motel at that time.

DICKSON said that he is not responsible for the assassination of MARTIN LUTHER KING, nor can he furnish any information in that regard.

The following is a description of DICKSON obtained through observation and interview:

Sex:	Male
Race:	White
Age:	29
Date of Birth:	
Place of Birth:	Fayetteville, Georgia
Residence:	Route 1, Fayetteville, Georgia
Height:	6 feet
Weight:	160
Eyes:	Brown

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

On 4/10/68 at Stray Horn, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JAMES W. SAMMON/bls Date dictated 4/15/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

Hair:	Light brown, short, curly, and parted
Complexion:	Ruddy
Build:	Slender
Education:	10th grade
Marital Status:	Single
Military Service:	U.S. Army, 53348507 from 1961 to 1963 - honorable
Employment:	Foreman for R.D. Cole Manufacturing Company, Newnan, Georgia, for past nine years
Automobile:	1967 white Mustang, 1968 Georgia license 112-D-484
Previous Arrests:	No admits

1

Date 4/22/68

DONALD SEWELL, employee, 7-11 Store, Number 34, 6099 Millbranch, Southaven, Mississippi, after being advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the nature of the investigation, furnished the following information:

He stated that the 7-11 Store purchases its beer from the Service Beverage Company at Clarksdale, Mississippi.

He stated that the Schlitz delivery man appears at that store every Wednesday.

He advised after examining his stock of Schlitz 12 ounce pop top cans that he had two six packs in his refrigerator with the date March 15, 1968. He stated that this 7-11 Store uses Toreador paper sacks. He advised they do not utilize a number or size 20 paper sack.

He was displayed artist's conception drawings from Birmingham and Memphis, Tennessee.

SEWELL recalled that in the latter part of March, 1968, a white male approximately 5'9" to 5'10" in height, age 27 to 28 years of age, small frame, with a dark crew hair cut, wearing a gray suit with black pin stripes, glasses with black rims, purchased beer at that store.

SEWELL stated that he could not recall what brand of beer this individual bought or how he paid for it.

SEWELL stated that he recalled this incident as the authorities in Memphis, Tennessee, had put a curfew on beer and liquor sales and that at the same time this individual was in the checkout line, a highway patrolman came to the store and told him to cut off beer sales.

On 4/15/68 at Southaven, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA KENNETH P. HUGHES/pac Date dictated 4/19/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

According to SEWELL, the patrolman advised him that the individuals in line could make their purchases but no other individuals would be allowed to purchase beer. SEWELL estimated the time at 3:30 p.m.

He stated that he recalled this incident as after this white male purchased the beer, he, SEWELL, had to request him to leave the store as he was "cursing" due to the fact that the beer sales had been cut off.

SEWELL stated that he had to tell this individual to leave the store.

SEWELL again stated that he believes this incident took place during the latter part of March, 1968, when the City of Memphis first experienced racial problems.

SEWELL stated that he had never seen this individual before and has not seen him since. He stated he did not see which way he turned when he left the store nor did he observe an automobile.

He stated that this individual vaguely resembled the artist's conception drawing from Birmingham.

SEWELL stated that he doubted he could recognize this individual if he saw him again.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/22/68

Located at the Southaven Minnow Shop, Highway 51, just south of the Tennessee State Line in Mississippi, were numerous six packs of Schlitz twelve-ounce beer in the pop-top can, held together in the six pack with a plastic ring, which beer was brewed by the date March 15, 1968. A can of this beer was obtained.

Also located in that minnow shop was a brown paper bag stamped "Homestead. Stubby. 20". One of the brown paper bags was obtained.

BILL and JANE MC LAUGHLIN and their son WILLIE MC LAUGHLIN, the proprietors of that minnow shop, were all interviewed in this matter, and composite photographs of GALT exhibited to them with negative results. Neither they nor LAWRENCE PARKER, a frequent customer to the minnow shop, could identify GALT by photograph, nor did they recall an individual driving a white Mustang with an Alabama license purchasing a six pack of twelve-ounce pop-top Schlitz beer from their minnow shop.

Mr. MC LAUGHLIN advised that GUS (last name unknown), a salesman for the Service Beverage Company of Clarksdale, Mississippi, delivers their beer to them, and that from his records, on April 1, 1968, he purchased 17 cases of twelve-ounce Schlitz pop-top beer; on April 10, eight cases; on April 11, six cases; and on April 15, 1968, two cases.

It was noted that the Southaven Minnow Shop is one-half mile south on Highway 51 from the Tennessee State Line in Mississippi and exactly three miles south of the Oliver Rexall Drug Store on Highway 51, Whitehaven, Memphis, Tennessee.

On 4/15/68 at Southaven, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JAMES W. SAMMON/bls Date dictated 4/19/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/22/68

LEW HOUSTON, Manager of Service Beverage, a Schlitz Beer Distributor, Clarksdale, Mississippi, advised that all their beer is brewed and sent to them from their Schlitz Brewery in Longview, Texas.

HOUSTON said that GUS THOMPSON is their truck salesman to the Southaven, Mississippi, area and does deliver Schlitz beer to the Southaven Minnow Shop in Southaven, Mississippi.

HOUSTON said on March 15, 1968, his company received 2100 cases of the twelve-ounce pop-top Schlitz beer from their Longview, Texas, brewery and all of that beer has been distributed.

HOUSTON said that on March 20, 1968, his company was shipped 924 cases of that beer from Longview, Texas, and that he has 35 cases of that particular beer left, which was brewed at Longview on March 15, 1968, which date is recorded on the cans. HOUSTON said that this particular shipment was sent on March 15, 1968, from Longview to him.

HOUSTON said that therefore all Schlitz beer brewed at Longview, Texas, on March 15, 1968, was received by him on March 20, 1968, and that of the 924 cases received, he has 35 cases remaining. HOUSTON said that from his records, the Southaven Minnow Shop on March 21, 1968, received four cases of the twelve-ounce pop-top Schlitz beer; on March 28, 1968, five cases; and on March 30, 1968, twelve cases. HOUSTON said that that beer received at the Southaven Minnow Shop would have been a portion of the beer brewed in Longview, Texas, on March 15, 1968, and received by him in Clarksdale on March 20, 1968.

On 4/17/68 at Clarksdale, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JAMES W. SAMMON/bls Date dictated 4/19/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

Date 4/22/68

Mr. V. P. WAIT, Manager, Senatobia Tobacco Company, was interviewed concerning the distribution of a Number 20 brown paper bag with the name "Homestead Stubby" written on it, at which time WAIT furnished the following information:

WAIT advised that Senatobia Tobacco Company is a branch of Pettis Cigar Company and that they (Senatobia Tobacco) do handle a Number 20 brown paper bag with the name "Homestead Stubby" on it.

WAIT advised that the Southaven Minnow Shop, located on Route 51, adjacent to the Mississippi - Tennessee State Line, is the only store that is presently purchasing this bag. WAIT stated that the Southaven Minnow Shop has presently been purchasing about 250 of these bags every two weeks.

WAIT further advised that the Southaven Minnow Shop is the only store that is presently buying that particular bag in that area. WAIT stated that the "Market Place", located on Route 51, across from the Southaven Minnow Shop, had purchased this particular bag around Christmas of 1967, but this had only been a one time order.

WAIT advised that the closest store to the Southaven Minnow Shop that is presently using this particular bag is Treadways Grocery, which is in Cockrum, Mississippi, in the southern part of DeSoto County.

On 4/18/68 at SENATOBIA, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA WILLIAM P. LAWLER, JR. /jdh Date dictated 4/19/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/22/68

GROVER KINNY, Stock Manager, Pettis Company, Oxford, Mississippi, was contacted concerning the distribution of a Number 20 brown paper bag with the name "Homestead Stubby" written on it, at which time KINNY furnished the following information:

KINNY advised that Pettis Cigar Company buys a Number 20 brown paper bag bearing the name "Homestead Stubby" from the Graham Paper Company in Memphis.

KINNY advised that distribution to stores in the extreme northern part of Mississippi is handled by Senatobia Tobacco Company, in Senatobia, Mississippi, which is a branch of Pettis Cigar Company, and that specific information concerning the sale of this bag would have to be obtained from Senatobia Tobacco.

On 4/18/68 at OXFORD, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA WILLIAM P. LAWLER, JR. /jdh Date dictated 4/19/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 29, 1968

The wanted flier on JAMES EARL RAY, Wanted Flier Number 442-A, was exhibited to BILL MC LAUGHLIN; his wife, Mrs. BILL MC LAUGHLIN; and his seventeen-year-old son, WILLIAM MC LAUGHLIN, JR.

All advised that RAY is totally unknown to them and that they do not recall that individual purchasing a six-pack of twelve-ounce pop-top Schlitz beer, while driving a white Mustang automobile with an Alabama license.

On 4/24/68 at Southaven, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JAMES W. SAMMON /blw Date dictated 4/27/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

JN 157-9586

By communication dated April 17, 1968, the following items were forwarded to the FBI Laboratory, Washington, D.C., by the Jackson FBI Office:

One empty Schlitz beer can, 12-ounce size, from Southaven Minnow Shop, Southaven, Mississippi;

One brown paper bag from Southaven Minnow Shop, Southaven, Mississippi.

By communication dated April 24, 1968, the FBI Laboratory, Washington, D.C., furnished the following information:

Specimens received 4/19/68

K169 Empty Schlitz beer can, 12-ounce size, from Southaven
Minnow Shop

K170 Brown paper bag from Southaven Minnow Shop

Results of examination:

Marks appearing in the number impressions on the bottoms of K169 and the previously submitted Q53 can of beer were identified as having been made by the same number dies. The marks on the Q52 can of beer were not identified with K169 or Q53, possibly because the marks were not so deeply or completely impressed in Q52.

The K170 paper bag was found to be similar in all observable characteristics to the Q55 paper bag which was previously submitted.

F B I

Date: May 2, 1968

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

MURKIN - COST DATA

Re Memphis airtel to Albany, 4/19/68.

Cost data for the Jackson Division from 4/4/68 to 4/30/68 is as follows:

- 1- A. Special Agents
 - Regular Man Hours 1,741 (hours)
 - Overtime 632 (hours)
- B. Clerical Employees
 - Regular Man Hours 274 (hours)
 - Overtime None
- 2- Total Mileage (Estimated) 13,513 (miles)
- 3- Unusual or out-of-the-ordinary Expenses None
- 4- Peak Number of Special Agents Working on Case at Anytime During the Month 82

157-9586-452

Searched _____

Serialized JP

Indexed _____

Filed JP

2 - Memphis

① - Jackson

JLP/blw
(3)

Approved: _____

Sent _____ M Per _____

Special Agent in Charge

F B I

Date: 5/2/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

MURKIN

RE: REVEREND STEVE HAMMONDS - COMPLAINANT

Re Bu Airtel, 5-1-68,

Results of inquiry in this matter furnished to the Bureau by Jackson airtel to Bureau, 4/17/68, which contained four enclosures. Memphis and Oklahoma City were also advised similarly.

3 - Bureau
1 - Memphis (Info)
① - Jackson

JLP/clm
(5) *[Signature]*

157-9586-451
Searched _____
Serialized *JK* _____
Indexed _____
Filed *JK* _____

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 5/2/68

FROM : SA JAMES J. FILES

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 4/29/68 Detective J. B. GIBSON, Pascagoula, Miss., advised he had learned that one JAMES L. RAY had skipped a bill at the Holiday Inn, Pascagoula, Miss., on 1/15/68.

LINDA WALLER, Desk Clerk, Holiday Inn, Pascagoula, advised her records show that JAMES L. RAY had skipped a bill at the Holiday Inn on 1/15/68 owing \$21.96. She said the file had been sent to Holiday Inn Corporation, Memphis, Tenn., for collection.

On 4/29/68 CHRIST K. THYGESEN, Manager, Holiday Inn, Pascagoula, advised that JAMES L. RAY registered in Room 205 on 1/12/68 at 2:19 p.m. listing his address as Route 3, Box 216, Troy, Ala. He listed his employment as H. E. Thomas, Private Contractor. He was driving a Ford bearing Ala. license 38-8355. Mr. THYGESEN said that Ala. Motor Vehicle Registrations reflects this license was issued to RAY HARRISON, Route 1, Cottonwood, Ala., for a Chevrolet and that he had written to RAY HARRISON and received a note back indicating that the man he was seeking was connected with BILLY MARTIN's City Auto Sales, Dothan, Ala. He said he wrote a letter to that address and it was returned unclaimed.

Mrs. EURCEL LEWIS, Housekeeper, Holiday Inn, Pascagoula, viewed photos of JAMES EARL RAY. She said that they bear no similarity whatever to the JAMES L. RAY who skipped the Holiday Inn in January, 1968. She said that she recalls JAMES L. RAY and that he was a man well up in his 50's, heavily built and with full jowls. She said that

① - Jackson
JJF:pdb
(1)



CCO
marked for
indexing

157-9586-450

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 2 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

JN 157-9586

he was driving a white 1959 beat-up Ford and was a rough-looking sort of individual.

F B I

Date: 5/1/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL

(Priority)

✓ To: SAC, Jackson

✓ From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN

RE: REVEREND STEVE HAMMONDS - COMPLAINANT

Reference is made to Oklahoma City teletype 4/14/68, to Bureau and Jackson advising that captioned complainant observed individual who resembled artist's drawing of the subject who was driving automobile bearing Mississippi license HB9317. Bureau files do not disclose results of your inquiry.

By return airtel advise results of your inquiry or identify communication wherein your investigation was reported.

1 - Memphis (info.)

see in airtel to Bureau, 4/17/68

157-9586-449

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 2 - 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

airtel to B in reply to above, 5/2/68

Sent Via _____

M

Per _____

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 5/2/68

FROM : SA ROY H. MC DANIEL

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re memo to all Agents, 4/30/68.

On 5/1/68, Mr. RALPH HARGROVE, Identification Officer of the Jackson PD and Mr. SAM IVY, Identification Officer, Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol (MHSP) both advised that they do not maintain an unidentified latent fingerprint file in connection with matters under their jurisdiction but that they kept unidentified latents in the case file in which it was obtained. Unless they have some suspect that they believe would be connected with a particular case, they never compare unidentified latents after the crime is committed.

Both stated that they would, however, attempt to recall all cases since 4/23/67, and in those where latent fingerprints were available, they would compare them with the prints of JAMES EARL RAY.

Both stated that if they were successful in making identification, they would advise immediately.



2 Jackson

RHM/wgj

(2) *wgj*

157-9586-448

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED <i>gn</i>	FILED <i>gn</i>
MAY 2 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

5/2/68

SA ROY H. MC DANIEL

MURKIN

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2-Jackson
RHM/wgj
(2)

157-9586-448

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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MAY 2 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

FBI ATLANTA

808 PM EDT URGENT 5/1/68 VSC

TO DIRECTOR, JACKSON, KANSAS CITY, MEMPHIS, MIAMI,

MINNEAPOLIS AND BIRMINGHAM

FROM ATLANTA 44-2386 2P

MURKIN

*Ingram advised 7:45 P.M.
Paddister advised 7:50 P.M.*

*teletype reply sent 5/1/68
with neg. results*

57-9586-447

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 1 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	

RE BIRMINGHAM TEL, APR. THIRTY, LAST, AND ATLANTA TELCALLS
TO BIRMINGHAM, MAY ONE, INSTANT.

OFFICES HAVING LEADS TO LOCATE PASSENGERS LEAVING BIRMINGHAM
AS STATED IN RETEL, REQUESTED TO DISCONTINUE INVESTIGATION
TO LOCATE PASSENGERS. INVESTIGATION HERTZ CORP., ATLANTA,
THIS DATE REFLECTED RENTAL AGREEMENT DATED APR. SEVEN,
'SIXTYEIGHT FOR 'SIXTYEIGHT AMERICAN MTRS REBEL, TWO-DOOR,

REFERRED TO IN RETEL, RENTED TO J. TERRENCE WOLKERSTORFER UNDER
SINCLAIR CREDIT CARD NO. SEVEN TWO NINE EIGHT ONE NINE THREE EIGHT THREE
APPARENTLY EMPLOYED NOTRE DAME AND AVA MARIA MAGAZINE. RENTAL AGREEMENT
REFLECTS ADDITIONAL DRIVER OF CAR JOHN TEVAHEAY, THREE ONE
SIX SPENCER ROAD, DEVON, PA. WOLKERSTORFER APPARENTLY APPEARED AT
ATLANTA AIRPORT FOUR AM, APR. NINE, 'SIXTYEIGHT, AND ADVISED
HERTZ EMPLOYEE AMERICAN REBEL AUTO LEFT AT BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT

END PAGE ONE

PAGE TWO

AT 44-2386

WITH HERTZ CORP. AND MILEAGE RECORDED FIVE HUNDRED
TEN MILES. CHECK-REPORT MADE IN ATLANTA BY M. STEPHENS. INQUIRY SINCLER
OIL CO., ATLANTA, REFLECTS WOLKERSTORFER RESIDES THREE TWO FOUR WOODLAWN
AVE., ST. PAUL, MINN. CREDIT CARD NOT REPORTED STOLEN TO DATE AND
NO EXCESSIVE CHARGES LISTED.

MINNEAPOLIS AT ST. PAUL, MINN., LOCATE WOLKERSTORFER RE RENTAL
OF AMERICAN MTRS REBEL, TWO-DR, AT ATLANTA, APR. SEVEN, LAST, AND
LEAVING SAME AT BIRMINGHAM. ASCERTAIN IF WOLKERSTORFER IN ANYWAY
CONNECTED WITH CAPTIONED MATTER AND IF HE AND ASSOCIATE, TEVAHEAY
POSSIBLY IDENTICAL TO SUBJECT.

ATLANTA INTERVIEWING M. STEPHENS RE CHECK-IN OF REBEL AUTO.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS. P

END

VCG

FBI JKSN MISS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE MEMPHIS	OFFICE OF ORIGIN MEMPHIS	DATE 4/30/68	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD 4/4-30/68
TITLE OF CASE CHANGED JAMES EARL RAY, aka Eric Starvo Galt, W. C. Herron, Harvey Lowmyer, James McBride, James O'Conner, James Walton,		REPORT MADE BY SA JOE C. HESTER	TYPED BY wp
		CHARACTER OF CASE CR - CONSPIRACY; UFAC - ROBBERY	

by: **James Walyon,
John Willard,
Jim - FUGITIVE
IO # 4182,
WF # 442-A;
Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM**

Title marked changed to reflect the subject's true name of JAMES EARL RAY and to reflect additional aliases of the subject.

REFERENCE

Report of SA JOE C. HESTER dated 4/17/68 at Memphis.

-P-

ENCLOSURES

TO CHICAGO AND KANSAS CITY:

One copy of referenced report.

APPROVED <i>[Signature]</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE COPIES MADE: 5-Bureau (44-38861) 3-Atlanta (44-2386) 3-Birmingham (44-1740) 3-Chicago (Enc. 1) (44-1114) 1-Jackson 3-Kansas City (44-760) (Enc. 1) 3-Los Angeles (44-1574) 3-Mobile (157-2627) 3-New Orleans 3-St. Louis (44-775) 3-Springfield 5-Memphis (44-1987)	DO NOT WRITE IN SPACES BELOW <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; margin: 10px;"> 157-9586-446 SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> MAY 2 - 1968 FBI-JACKSON </div>
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PROPERTY OF FBI.—This report is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

ME 44-1987

ADMINISTRATIVE

On April 19, 1968, the Washington Field Office initiated a check of files of the Passport Office, United States Department of State, concerning JAMES EARL RAY, and nothing identifiable with RAY was located. A further check is underway at the Washington National Record Center at Suitland, Maryland, in retired passport files.

In order to cover the possibility that subject RAY may have recently been issued a passport and the record thereof had not been received in Washington, Mr. EDWARD STOKEN, Passport Office, sent a teletype message to all passport agencies. The Passport Office in Honolulu was checked telephonically with negative results. On April 19, 1968, Mr. ROBERT D. JOHNSON, Acting Director, Passport Office, telephonically advised SA KENNETH HASER that all passport agencies had teletyped Washington that their records are negative concerning RAY.

Mr. JOHNSON further advised that he had issued instructions whereby the Duty Officer of the Passport Office was alerted concerning RAY and instructions were made to all passport agencies to refer immediately to the nearest FBI office any information concerning RAY and his intended travel.

B
COVER PAGE

ME 44-1987

The period of this report precedes the last period date of the last report, as this report contains investigation which for reasons of brevity were not included in the last report.

Leads for other offices continue to be set out by more expeditious means than by report, and it would serve no purpose to list such leads in this report.

It should be noted that in the interviews with persons who were at Jim's Grill, 418 South Main Street, on the night of 4/4/68 at about the time of the murder, they report seeing a white Mustang parked almost in front of Jim's Grill. The owner of this Mustang has not been located and has not voluntarily come forth. It is not believed that this Mustang is pertinent to this investigation and should not be confused with the Mustang that was parked just south of Canipe Amusement Company, 424 South Main Street, in which car it is believed the subject fled from the scene. The crime scene diagram on page 4 of referenced Memphis report indicates the positions, or what is believed to be the approximate positions, of the two white Mustangs as mentioned above.

INFORMANTS

All offices have been requested to maintain contact in this matter with criminal, security, and racial informants.

The Memphis Office has maintained contact with informants, none of whom have been able to furnish any positive information regarding the subject or his whereabouts.

LEAD

MEMPHIS

AT MEMPHIS, TENN.

Will continue efforts to locate the subject.

C*
COVER PAGE

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

Copy to:

Report of: **SA JOE C. HESTER**
Date: **April 30, 1968**

Office: **Memphis**Field Office File No.: **ME 44-1987**Bureau File No.: **44-38861**

Title: **JAMES EARL RAY;
Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM**

Character: **CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
UNLAWFUL FLIGHT TO AVOID CONFINEMENT - ROBBERY**

Synopsis: Photographs of subject RAY exhibited to persons at rooming house, 422½ South Main Street, Memphis; to persons at Rebel Motel, Memphis, and to clerk at Oliver Rexall Drug Store, Whitehaven, Tennessee, without effecting a positive identification. Salesman at York Arms, Memphis, who sold binoculars indicated he could not positively identify 1968 photograph of JAMES EARL RAY as binocular purchaser but believes that photograph is identical with purchaser. Additional interviews with occupants of Lorraine Motel set out, including interviews with Mrs. GEORGIA M. DAVIS and Mrs. LUCRETIA B. WARD, who describe activities immediately prior to murder. Persons who were at Jim's Grill, 418 South Main Street, Memphis, on 4/4/68 interviewed. Information regarding emergency room treatment of victim KING set forth. Information regarding Alabama driver's license and automobile registration in the name of ERIC STARVO GALT set forth. Former manager, Continental Dance Studio, New Orleans, Louisiana, located and unable to recall that subject attended this school in New Orleans. Laboratory findings set forth regarding evidence located at Memphis. Latent fingerprints found on the Remington Model 760 rifle, on the telescopic sight, on the binoculars, on the newspaper, on the after-shave lotion bottle, and on the Schlitz beer can have all been identified with the fingerprints of the subject. HARRY SERO, former jailmate at Missouri State Penitentiary, interviewed. Additional persons who resided Economy Rooming House, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, located and interviewed, with negative results. Memphis City Engineer measured distance from where shot fired to where victim struck as 207 feet. IN VIEW OF THE CRIME FOR WHICH SUBJECT BEING SOUGHT, HE SHOULD BE CONSIDERED ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

-P-

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

	<u>Page</u>
I. EXHIBITION OF SUBJECT'S PHOTOGRAPHS	4
A. Rooming House, 422 $\frac{1}{2}$ South Main Street, Memphis	4
B. Rebel Motel, Memphis	12
C. Oliver Rexall Drug Store, Whitehaven, Tennessee	15
D. York Arms Company, 162 South Main Street, Memphis	17
II. INTERVIEWS WITH PERSONS AT OR NEAR LORRAINE MOTEL, MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	19
A. Mrs. GEORGIA M. DAVIS	20
B. Mrs. LUCRETIA B. WARD	26
III. INVESTIGATION AT JIM'S GRILL, 418 SOUTH MAIN STREET, MEMPHIS	47
IV. MEDICAL INFORMATION RE DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING	70
A. Emergency Room Summary	71
B. Description of Photographs Taken of the Victim	74
V. ALABAMA DRIVER'S LICENSE AND AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATION FOR ERIC STARVO GALT	75
A. Registration for 1966 Ford Mustang	76
B. Driver's License Issued to ERIC STARVO GALT	77
VI. INFORMATION CONCERNING CONTINENTAL DANCE STUDIO, NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA	78

TABLE OF CONTENTS, continued

	<u>Page</u>
VII. PHYSICAL EVIDENCE AND LATENT FINGERPRINTS . .	83
VIII. MISCELLANEOUS	111
A. HARRY SERO, Former Jailmate at Missouri State Penitentiary	112
B. Persons Who Resided Economy Rooming House, Birmingham, Alabama	114
1. LAWRENCE C. HOWELL	114
2. Mrs. O. L. BLACK	116
3. Mrs. JAMES E. WELDON	118
4. THOMAS D. FRANKLIN	118
C. MEASUREMENT OF DISTANCE FROM ROOMING HOUSE TO LORRAINE MOTEL BALCONY	119

ME 44-1987

DETAILS:

PERSONS AT ROOMING HOUSE,
422½ SOUTH MAIN STREET,
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date April 25, 1968

Photographs of JAMES EARL RAY taken in 1955, 1960, and 1966, and of the bedspread recovered at Memphis on April 4, 1968, were shown to Mr. CHARLIE QUITMAN STEPHENS, Apartment 6B, 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee. STEPHENS said the 1955 and 1960 photographs of RAY were not familiar to him, but he advised the 1966 profile photograph of RAY appearing in Wanted Flyer 442-A, April 19, 1968, and Identification Order 4182 dated April 20, 1968, looked like the man he saw in Apartment 5B on April 4, 1968, talking to Mrs. BESSIE BREWER. STEPHENS said he only saw the man's profile in the boarding house and as a result could only say the profile photograph of RAY in 1966 looked very much like the above mentioned man in Room 5B.

STEPHENS said he had never seen the bedspread or any similar bedspread either at the rooming house or anywhere else.

5

On 4/24/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON:jap Date dictated 4/25/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date April 25, 1968

Photographs of JAMES EARL RAY taken in 1955, 1960, and 1966, and of the bedspread recovered at Memphis, Tennessee, April 4, 1968, were shown to Mr. WILLIAM CHARLES ANSCHUTZ, Apartment 4B, 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee. He advised none of the men in the photographs were familiar to him and that he would not be able to identify the man he saw running down the hall on April 4, 1968, in the late afternoon after hearing the noise which he thought was a shot, as the man was covering his face with his arm as he ran down the hall.

6

On 4/24/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987by SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON:jap Date dictated 4/25/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date April 25, 1968

Photographs of JAMES EARL RAY taken 1955, 1960, and 1966, and of the bedspread recovered at Memphis, April 4, 1968, were shown to Mrs. BESSIE RUTH BREWER, Room No. 2, 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee. She said she had looked at the bedspread on April 4, 1968, when it was displayed to her after being recovered by the Memphis Police. She said the bedspread did not come from her rooming house and in fact she had never seen one like it before in her life. Mrs. BREWER said none of the men in the photographs shown her were familiar to her. She further advised that she did not believe she would recognize the man using the name JOHN WILLARD if he were to "walk up and say hello to me right now." She said she did not look at the man called WILLARD "squarely in the face" and as a result, does not think she will be able to identify him.

7

On April 24, 1968 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON:jap Date dictated 4/25/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date April 25, 1968

Photographs of JAMES EARL RAY taken in 1955, 1960, and 1966, and of the bedspread recovered at Memphis, Tennessee, April 4, 1968, were shown to Mr. BERTIE L. REEVES, Apartment 3, 422½ South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee. He advised none of the men in the photographs were familiar to him and that he had never seen the bedspread or any bedspread similar to it.

8

On 4/24/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987
by SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON:jap Date dictated 4/25/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date April 25, 1968

Mr. FRANK BREWER, Room No. 2, 422 $\frac{1}{2}$ South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, advised he never saw the man registered as JOHN WILLARD at the boarding house.

Photographs of JAMES EARL RAY taken in 1955, 1960, and 1966, and of the bedspread recovered at Memphis on April 4, 1968, were shown to Mr. BREWER, and he advised none of the men in the photographs were familiar to him. He also stated he had never seen the bedspread or any bedspread similar to it.

9

On 4/24/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987
by SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON:jap Date dictated 4/25/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date April 25, 1968

Mrs. CHARLIE STEPHENS, Apartment 6B, 422 $\frac{1}{2}$ South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, advised she never saw the man registered into Room 5B on April 4, 1968, as she was sick in bed that entire week.

Photographs of JAMES EARL RAY taken in 1955, 1960, and 1966, and of the bedspread recovered at Memphis on April 4, 1968, were shown to Mrs. STEPHENS, and she advised none of the men in the photographs were familiar to her. She also stated she had never seen the bedspread or any bedspread similar to it before.

10

On 4/24/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987by SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON:jap Date dictated 4/25/68

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ME 44-1987

JWB:ngm

1

Various photographs of ERIC S. GALT were shown to the following individuals on April 18, 1968, by SA's JOHN W. BAUER and HARLEY E. GYLFE at Memphis, Tennessee:

BESSIE BREWER, 422 $\frac{1}{2}$ South Main Street;

FRANK BREWER, 422 $\frac{1}{2}$ South Main Street;

CHARLES STEPHENS, 422 $\frac{1}{2}$ South Main Street;

ANNA CHRISTINE KELLY, Manager, Rebel Motel,
3466 Lamar Avenue;

HENRIETTA HAGEMASTER, Desk Clerk, Rebel Motel,
3466 Lamar Avenue;

VICTOR DUPRET, owner, Rebel Motel, 3466 Lamar
Avenue;

SARA LOVING, maid, Rebel Motel, 3466 Lamar Avenue;

SADIE MC KAY, maid, Rebel Motel, 3466 Lamar Avenue.

The above individuals stated that the photographs shown to them of ERIC S. GALT do not in any way look familiar to them.

11

ME 44-1987

**PERSONS AT REBEL MOTEL
3466 LAMAR AVENUE
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE**

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date April 23, 1968

Mrs. HENRIETTA HAGEMASTER, Desk Clerk, Rebel Motor Hotel, 3466 Lamar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, was shown various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY and advised that none of these photographs looked familiar to her. She added that she still felt that she would be unable to recognize the individual who registered at the motel as ERIC S. GALT even if she had a face-to-face confrontation with him.

13

On 4/22/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA JOHN W. BAUER:tjm Date dictated 4/22/68

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ME 44-1987

JWB:cjs

1

Various photographs of JAMES EARL RAY were shown to the following individuals on April 19, 1968, by SA JOHN W. BAUER at the Rebel Restaurant, 3464 Lamar Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee:

GEORGE D. BUNNELL, owner, Rebel Restaurant;

METHEL STACKS, waitress, Rebel Restaurant;

JOYCE B. FOLLIS, waitress, Rebel Restaurant;

JUANITA WILSON, cook, Rebel Restaurant;

L. V. CAMPBELL, cook, Rebel Restaurant.

The above individuals stated the photographs shown to them of JAMES EARL RAY are not in any way familiar to them.

ME 44-1987

OLIVER REXALL DRUG STORE
WHITEHAVEN, TENNESSEE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/19/68

Mrs. PEGGY BROWN, 4810 Richland, was interviewed at her place of employment, Oliver Rexall Drugstore, Highway 51 South, White Haven, Tennessee, at which time she viewed the photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT wherein GALT is depicted with his eyes closed and she furnished the following information:

She stated that this photograph generally depicts the individual who was in the drugstore on April 3, 1968. She advised that the individual in the store was generally of the same age as GALT, had the same color hair, and similar type complexion. Photograph of GALT appeared to resemble the individual in the manner of build in a general way. She advised that she is unable to say if this is the same person who was in the store. She could not say whether the facial characteristics depicted in the photograph are similar to the man who made the purchase. She advised she does not have a good recollection of the person and may be able to identify this individual if she were to see him in person. She could not comment regarding the eyes, nose, and other facial characteristics depicted in the photograph as she does not know if they are similar to the customer who purchased the Gillette razor kit.

16

On 4/19/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987

by SA ANDREW SLOAN/raj Date dictated 4/19/68

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ME 44-1987

**YORK ARMS COMPANY
162 SOUTH MAIN STREET
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE**

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date April 25, 1968

Mr. RALPH MEREDITH CARPENTER, 4844 Durbin Street, Memphis, Tennessee, a salesman at the York Arms Company, 162 South Main Street, Memphis, was shown a group of pictures taken on different dates of JAMES EARL RAY, FBI No. 405 942 G. Mr. CARPENTER said of the picture of RAY taken March 28, 1955, that he could not eliminate this as being a picture of the individual to whom he had sold a pair of Bushnell binoculars on April 4, 1968. He said that the purchaser of the binoculars did not have any beard or mustache but his facial features resembled those in the March 28, 1955, photograph of RAY. CARPENTER said the 1968 picture of JAMES EARL RAY, as shown on the current Wanted Flyer, Number 442-A, looks more like the binocular purchaser than any picture he has seen to date. CARPENTER mentioned that he does not recall a protruding left ear of the customer and did not note any scar on his face. He said he could not positively identify this 1968 picture of JAMES EARL RAY as being a picture of the binocular purchaser above mentioned, but he believes that it is.

18

On 4/22/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA RALPH J. LIEWER:jap Date dictated 4/25/68

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ME 44-1987

INVESTIGATION AT OR NEAR
THE LORRAINE MOTEL,
MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Date April 16, 1968

1

Mrs. NORMAN (GEORGIA M.) DAVIS, 733 Cecil Avenue, Louisville, Kentucky, was interviewed at her residence. She furnished the following information:

She is a Kentucky State Senator from the 33rd District of Louisville, Kentucky. She is also a Board member and Chairman of the Finance Committee of the Kentucky Christian Leadership Conference (KCLC) which is affiliated with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

Mrs. DAVIS in the company of Mrs. LUKIE WARD and Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING of Louisville, Kentucky, were in Memphis, Tennessee at the Lorraine Motel on April 4, 1968. Their purpose was to participate in a march scheduled in Memphis, Tennessee for April 5, 1968, to be led by the late Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Mrs. DAVIS volunteered the following as background data concerning the activities of herself, Mrs. WARD and Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING immediately prior to their visit to Memphis, Tennessee.

On March 23, 1968, Mrs. DAVIS and Mrs. WARD left Louisville, Kentucky, traveling in Mrs. WARD's Cadillac automobile, to go to Florida for a vacation. On the night of March 23, 1968, they stayed at a Holiday Inn Motel near Birmingham, Alabama, possibly located on Highway 31. The next day they drove to Florida where they stayed at a Howard Johnson Motel in the vicinity of Fort Walton Beach. On March 25, 1968, they drove to Panama City, Florida, where they rented kitchenette #4 of the Treasures Island Motel which was operated by BUD HASTINGS and his wife FRANCES. These individuals also owned the nearby Sunglow Motel. When Mrs. DAVIS and Mrs. WARD occupied kitchenette #4 at the Treasures Island Motel, no other individuals were occupying the motel.

On April 1, 1968, Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING of Louisville flew to Panama City and was met at the airport by Mrs. WARD and Mrs. DAVIS, and on that date, he occupied the kitchenette

On 4-15-68 at Louisville, Kentucky File # LS 44-947

by SA WARREN L. WALSH WLW/ds Date dictated 4-16-68

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next to #4 at the Treasures Island Motel believed to be #5.

About 9:30 a.m., April 3, 1968, Mrs. WARD, Mrs. DAVIS and Rev. KING left Treasures Island Motel in Mrs. WARD's automobile for the purpose of going to Memphis, Tennessee, to participate in the scheduled April 5, 1968, march. Mrs. WARD left some of her clothing in kitchenette #4 at the Treasures Island Motel as she planned to return to the motel after the march for further vacationing. Mrs. DAVIS does not believe that the owners of the motel, the HASTINGS, knew at the time Mrs. DAVIS and her companions left the motel that they were going to Memphis, but the HASTINGS did know that Mrs. WARD planned to return in a few days to the motel.

Mrs. DAVIS later learned that when Mrs. WARD, because of the death of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, decided not to further vacation in Florida and had flown to Panama City on April 6, 1968, to obtain the remainder of her clothing, that Mr. and Mrs. HASTINGS had expressed some displeasure to Mrs. WARD about having as guests Mrs. WARD, Mrs. DAVIS and Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING. Mrs. DAVIS believed the HASTINGS originally came from Birmingham and recalled that Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING used to pastor a church there.

Mrs. DAVIS and Mrs. WARD and Rev. KING arrived in Memphis, Tennessee from Panama City, Florida, and registered at the Lorraine Motel at about 1 a.m., April 4, 1968. Rev. KING and Mrs. DAVIS did the registering and Mrs. DAVIS occupied Room 201 and Mrs. WARD Room 207.

Immediately upon their arrival at the Lorraine Motel, Mrs. WARD, Mrs. DAVIS and Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING started making inquiry of other guests at the motel as to the whereabouts of Rev. KING's brother, Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. He could not be located at the motel and HOSEA WILLIAMS remarked that Dr. KING was at a strategy meeting at a church, the name of which Mrs. DAVIS recalls as the Church of the Minimal Salary (Phonetic). Mrs. WARD, Mrs. DAVIS and Rev. KING then went to the church but Dr. KING was not there. Rev. ANDREW YOUNG and some other people, identities not known to Mrs. DAVIS but appearing to be possibly local pastors and ministers, were holding a meeting at the church. A man called "CABBAGE" was speaking at the meeting when Mrs. DAVIS and her companions arrived,

but Mrs. DAVIS and her companions did not stay at the meeting upon learning Dr. KING was not there. Mrs. DAVIS and her companions went to a smaller room in the church where they met Rev. JESSE JACKSON from Chicago, Illinois and conversed with Rev. JACKSON for a few minutes.

Mrs. DAVIS and her companions thereafter returned to the Lorraine Motel arriving about 3 a.m., and the three of them went to Room 207. Here they conversed among themselves with the door to the motel room open for about an hour or an hour and a half at which point Mrs. DAVIS happened to observe a taxi cab, identity not recalled, arriving at the motel and to depart from the cab Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, Rev. RALPH ABERNATHY, and Rev. BERNARD LEE. Mrs. WARD immediately went out and invited the three individuals into Room 207. Doctor KING and his companions joined Mrs. DAVIS and her companions in Room 207. After approximately five minutes Revs. ABERNATHY and LEE left the room, presumably to go to their own rooms. Mrs. DAVIS, Mrs. WARD, Dr. KING and Rev. KING remained in Room 207 until about 5 a.m. when Dr. KING left, advising he was going to Room 306.

During the conversation by the above individuals in Room 207 no one made any mention of indication that they were fearful of any attempt being made that day on Dr. KING's life.

After Dr. KING left Room 207, Mrs. DAVIS also left the room and went to Room 201. About one-half hour later, Dr. KING came to Room 201 and visited with Mrs. DAVIS for about an hour, the talk consisting of general matters, Mrs. DAVIS remembering specifically that during this time she mentioned to Dr. KING that Miss KATHERINE PEDIN of Kentucky was running for U.S. Senator from Kentucky, and Dr. KING indicated he had met Miss PEDIN as she had interviewed him as a member of the President's Commission on Civil Disorders. Also during this visit Mrs. DAVIS told Dr. KING that in view of the march in Memphis, Tennessee having been rescheduled from April 5 to April 8, 1968, Mrs. DAVIS would probably not remain in Memphis over the weekend, but would return to Louisville. However, Dr. KING asked that before Mrs. DAVIS made a final decision he would like to talk to her further about this but that he had to leave as he had a strategy meeting planned in Room 306 at 8 a.m., April 4, 1968, and he anticipated he would re-contact

her about her decision about noon, April 4, 1968.

Shortly after Dr. KING left Room 201, Mrs. WARD joined Mrs. DAVIS in Room 201 where they had coffee and conversed until about noon when Mrs. WARD left. About 1 p.m. or 1:30 p.m. Dr. KING returned to Room 201 and advised Mrs. DAVIS that he needed to relax for a short while and left Room 306 so as not to be bothered unless important matters occurred. From Room 201 Dr. KING phoned Room 306 and spoke with Rev. LEE advising Rev. LEE as to his whereabouts and informed Rev. LEE he did not want to be disturbed unless it was an important matter. While in Room 201 on this occasion Dr. KING made several phone calls using a credit card. Mrs. DAVIS recalls that Dr. KING phoned his secretary, DORA McDONALD, in Atlanta, Georgia, and also made a call to New York, identity of person called not specifically remembered by Mrs. DAVIS, but possibly being a STAN LEVINSON (phonetic) or a (First Name Unknown) WACHTEL (phonetic) as Mrs. DAVIS had heard Dr. KING speak of these individuals.

Thereafter as Dr. KING was just dialing his mother in Atlanta, Georgia, Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING came into Room 201 and Dr. KING and Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING conversed with their mother telephonically for a few minutes. About 45 minutes later Revs. ABERNATHY and LEE came to Room 201 and Mrs. DAVIS then phoned Mrs. WARD and invited her to Room 201. Mrs. WARD did come to Room 201.

Shortly after Mrs. WARD's arrival in Room 201, Mrs. WARD left to pick up some cleaning for Mrs. DAVIS at a laundry and dry cleaning store, name not recalled, located at Beale and Third Streets in Memphis. Mrs. WARD had taken the cleaning to this location earlier on April 4, 1968, for Mrs. DAVIS, probably about 10 a.m. and as Mrs. DAVIS recalls, she had been accompanied on that occasion by Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING.

During the absence of Mrs. WARD from Room 201, CHAUNCEY ESKRIDGE, the attorney from Chicago, and Rev. ANDREW YOUNG, came to Room 201. Mrs. WARD returned from her visit to the laundry very shortly thereafter, making a total of eight individuals in the room. The above eight individuals conversed generally until about 5:45 p.m., when Dr. KING announced that he was going to dinner at the home of Rev. BILLY KYLES in Memphis and he invited Mrs. DAVIS to join him for dinner at the Reverend's home. She advised him that she would need

about 15 minutes or so to freshen up and he stated he would go to his room and freshen up and wait for her. Mrs. DAVIS had just completed her preparation for leaving for dinner because she recalled that she was standing in front of a mirror with her raincoat on taking a last look as to her appearance when she heard a shot. She was stunned for just an instant but then immediately went outside the room and heard someone yell Dr. KING had just been shot. She looked up towards Room 306 and saw what she is convinced were Dr. KING's feet on the balcony protruding slightly over the edge. There was considerable confusion and panic and police arrived almost immediately. Mrs. DAVIS cannot be entirely certain of immediate events following, but as she recalls Rev. JACKSON was in the motel courtyard at the time she went out of Room 201 as was Mrs. WARD. Mrs. DAVIS immediately proceeded up to where Dr. KING was lying and remained in that vicinity until Dr. KING was taken away in an ambulance which Mrs. DAVIS estimates was approximately 10 minutes after she had heard the shot.

Mrs. DAVIS can recall no incident which she observed after coming out of Room 201 after the shot had been fired which she feels has any bearing on ascertaining the identity of the individual responsible for the shot.

After Dr. KING had been taken from the motel in an ambulance, Mrs. DAVIS recalls that Rev. JACKSON was in the courtyard and gave a press statement. Thereafter Mrs. DAVIS went to the motel office where she found Mrs. WARD who was ordering coffee. Then Mrs. DAVIS and a man Mrs. DAVIS recalls as a HAROLD MILLER, possibly a local minister from Memphis or Atlanta, went to Room 207 to advise Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING of the shooting of his brother. Rev. KING was asleep and they did not succeed in awakening him. Thereafter Mrs. WARD came to Room 207 and Mrs. DAVIS and the man she believes was named MILLER left the room.

Later on the night of April 4, 1968, possibly around 8:30 p.m. someone, Mrs. DAVIS did not know who, felt that Mrs. WARD, Mrs. DAVIS and Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING should not spend the remainder of that night at the Lorraine Motel and Mrs. DAVIS recalls packing her clothes and the three of them going out to the home of Rev. KYLES. After arrival at this home, it was decided again by someone not known to Mrs. DAVIS that Rev. KING would remain at Rev. KYLES that evening but that

Mrs. WARD and Mrs. DAVIS should spend the evening at a Howard Johnson Motel in Memphis. Mrs. WARD and Mrs. DAVIS together with individuals not now recalled went to the Howard Johnson Motel where Mrs. WARD registered for the two of them, but the plans again changed as Mrs. DAVIS recalls HOSEA WILLIAMS indicated that Mrs. DAVIS and her companions should return to the Lorraine Motel for the evening. Mrs. WARD and Mrs. DAVIS were then driven in Mrs. WARD's car by an unknown individual back to the Lorraine Motel where they entered Room 201. A short time later Rev. KYLES brought Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING back to the motel at which point Mrs. WARD left Room 201. Mrs. DAVIS spent the remainder of the night by herself in Room 201.

On Friday morning, April 5, 1968, Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING left the Lorraine Motel to go to the airport to meet the wife of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING who was arriving in Memphis on that morning.

Mrs. WARD and Mrs. DAVIS left Memphis, Tennessee, about 9 a.m., April 5, 1968, and drove to Atlanta, Georgia.

Mrs. DAVIS advised that during her stay in Memphis, on April 4 - 5, 1968, she personally had received no threats against her life nor does she have any knowledge of anyone at the Lorraine Motel being specifically threatened on that occasion.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 16, 1968

1

Mrs. JASPER D. (LUCRETIA E.) WARD, also known as Lukie Ward, 2540 Ransdell, Louisville, Kentucky, was interviewed in the office of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI), Louisville, Kentucky, and furnished the following information:

For the past several years she has served as administrative assistant to Reverend A.D. WILLIAMS KING of Louisville, Kentucky, and as secretary of the Kentucky Christian Leadership Conference (KCLC) at Louisville, Kentucky, an affiliate of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC).

About midnight April 3, 1968, or shortly thereafter on April 4, 1968, Mrs. WARD in the company of Mrs. GEORGIA DAVIS of Louisville, Kentucky, a Board member of the KCLC and a Kentucky State Senator from Louisville, and the Reverend A.D. WILLIAMS KING of KCLC and pastor of the Zion Baptist Church in Louisville, arrived in Memphis, Tennessee, in Mrs. WARD's 1967 Cadillac, bearing 1968 Kentucky license K79-447. The purpose of their visit to Memphis, Tennessee was to participate in a scheduled march there on April 5, 1968 to be led by Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. Mrs. WARD and her companions registered in the Lorraine Motel occupying Rooms 201 and 207.

Mrs. WARD did not leave the Lorraine Motel from the time of her arrival until after the shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING at the motel at about 6 p.m. on April 4, 1968, except for one occasion. This was in the afternoon of April 4, 1968, possibly around 3 p.m., when Mrs. WARD left the motel to go to a nearby laundry, exact location not recalled, but the name of the laundry believed to be One-Hour Martinizing. The purpose of her going to the laundry was to pick up some clothes that were there ready for delivery to Mrs. GEORGIA DAVIS. When Mrs. WARD returned from the laundry, she joined a group that was gathered in Room 201 of the Lorraine Motel. As she recalls the individuals in the room were Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., Rev. RALPH ABERNATHY, Rev. ANDREW YOUNG, Attorney CHAUNCEY ESKRIDGE, Rev. BERNARD LEE, Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING and Mrs. GEORGIA DAVIS.

On 4-15-68 at Louisville, Kentucky File # LS 44-947

by SA WARREN L. WALSH WLW/ds Date dictated 4-16-68

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The above group remained together engaging in just general conversation until approximately 5:40 p.m., April 4, 1968, at which time the group decided that they would go to dinner, and the individuals left to go to their various rooms to freshen up for dinner. Mrs. WARD left Room 201 in the company of Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING and the two of them went to Room 207. Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING had partaken of some alcoholic beverages during the afternoon and had decided to rest rather than join the group for dinner. Approximately 15 - 20 minutes after arriving in Room 207 at which time Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING was sleeping, Mrs. WARD heard a shot. She immediately opened the door to the room and looked out and heard someone yell that Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING had just been shot. The news stunned Mrs. WARD and while she cannot be exactly certain of her exact movements immediately thereafter, as she recalls upon hearing the news she briefly re-entered Room 207 and then immediately went out into the courtyard of the motel. There was much confusion and police were immediately in the area. Mrs. WARD observed nothing which gave her any indication as to the possible identity of the individual responsible for the shooting. Mrs. WARD recalls that she did not advise Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING of the shooting of his brother until about 20 minutes after the incident occurred. Rev. KING's reaction was one of extreme grief and he gave no indication that he had any idea as to the identity of the person responsible.

As Mrs. WARD recalls, someone, specific identity not now recalled, thought it best that Mrs. WARD, Mrs. DAVIS and Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING not remain the remainder of the night of April 4 - 5, 1968, at the Lorraine Motel. Accordingly, at about 10 p.m. they left the motel and went to the home of a Rev. WILLIAM KYLES whom Mrs. WARD believes is a minister in Memphis. Rev. KYLES or someone suggested that Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING remain at his home that evening and that Mrs. WARD and Mrs. DAVIS obtain motel accommodations at a nearby Howard Johnson's Motel. Mrs. DAVIS and Mrs. WARD did go to such a motel and Mrs. WARD registered in the motel, but just as she did so HOSEA WILLIAMS who was present at the time decided that Mrs. WARD, Mrs. DAVIS and Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING should go back to the Lorraine Motel and spend the rest of the night. They did this.

LS 44-947

3

Mrs. WARD and Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING being in Room 207 and Mrs. DAVIS occupying Room 201. En route Mrs. WARD had stopped at a drug store and purchased some sleeping pills which she administered to the Rev. KING and Mrs. DAVIS because of their extremely excited condition.

Mrs. WARD commented that she possesses no information which she feels might assist in identifying the individual responsible for the shooting of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Date April 16, 1968

1

Mrs. JASPER D. (LUCRETIA B.) WARD, also known as Lukie Ward, 2540 Ransdell, Louisville, Kentucky, telephonically furnished the following information:

Since being interviewed on April 15, 1968, Mrs. WARD recalls that in addition to leaving the Lorraine Motel in the afternoon of April 4, 1968, she had left the motel on that date on one other occasion. This was during the morning, believed to be around 11 a.m., when she took some cleaning for Mrs. GEORGIA DAVIS to the nearby cleaners, the One-Hour Martinizing. On this occasion, she was accompanied by the Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING because she recalls that as she was taking the cleaning into the cleaners, Rev. KING purchased some beer from a store located diagonally across the corner from the cleaners.

Mrs. WARD also advised that she and Mrs. DAVIS and Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING, prior to their arrival in Memphis, Tennessee about midnight, April 3, 1968, had been vacationing in Panama City, Florida, at the Treasures Island Motel. They had driven to Memphis in Mrs. WARD's automobile from Florida. Prior to leaving the Florida motel, Mrs. WARD had notified Mrs. FRANCES HASTINGS who, together with her husband, owns the motel, that they were departing but that she, Mrs. WARD, would return shortly for about a week's stay. Mrs. WARD inadvertently told Mrs. HASTINGS that she and her companions were going to Birmingham. Mrs. WARD recalls that when she and her companions were nearly halfway to Memphis that she remembered that she had erroneously told Mrs. HASTINGS they were going to Birmingham. She feels that she made this mistake in that she had earlier talked to the HASTINGS who had told her they were originally from Birmingham, Alabama.

After Dr. KING's assassination, Mrs. WARD changed her plans about spending any further time in Florida and at 6:50 a.m., April 6, 1968, she flew from Memphis, Tennessee, to Panama City, Florida, to get the rest of her clothes. She rented a car at the airport and drove to the motel. When she arrived at the motel, she met Mrs. HASTINGS who immediately

On 4-16-68 at Louisville, Kentucky File # LS 44-947

by SA WARREN L. WALSH WLW/ds Date dictated 4-16-68

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advised Mrs. WARD that the motel was full and there was no room for Mrs. WARD. Mrs. WARD felt this statement to be untrue as there appeared to be room at the motel, and she spoke rather plainly to Mrs. HASTINGS about her feeling that Mrs. HASTINGS did not want her at the motel because she had been in the company of two Negroes, Rev. KING and Mrs. DAVIS. Mrs. HASTINGS made some comment about them, the HASTINGS, run a respectable motel, and Mrs. WARD replied that it was because the motel had that reputation that she and her companions had originally decided to vacation there.

Mrs. WARD stated that it appeared to her that the motel owners, the HASTINGS, did not object to herself and Mrs. DAVIS having occupied the motel, but apparently objected to the presence in the motel of Rev. A.D. WILLIAMS KING.

Mrs. WARD stated that at no time did either of the HASTINGS make any type of specific threat to Mrs. WARD, against Mrs. WARD or her companions, but it was clear to Mrs. WARD that she was no longer welcome at the HASTINGS' motel.

Mrs. WARD left Panama City by plane about 1:30 p.m. on April 6, 1968 and flew to Atlanta, Georgia, where she was met by Mrs. DAVIS.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

1

WALTER LANE BAILEY, Owner, Lorraine Hotel-Motel, 406 Mulberry Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that a check of his records reflected the following named persons as having been registered into his motel on either April 3 or April 4, 1968, or both dates:

- 1) GERALD HARRELL
Room No. 10
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 5427 Urguhart Avenue
New Orleans, Louisiana
- 2) JAMES LEWIS
Room No. 11
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 78 West Trigg Avenue
Memphis, Tennessee
- 3) M. JACKSON
Room No. 12
on April 3, 1968
no address given
- 4) R. ROGERS
Room No. 200
on April 3, 1968
no address given
- 5) WILLIE WILLIAM
Room No. 201
on April 3, 1968
address: 810 Parson Street
Atlanta, Georgia
- 6) R. B. COTTONREADER
Room No. 202
on April 3, 1968
address: 408 Third Street
Marks, Mississippi

31

On 4/11/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA EUGENE A. MEDORI, JR. and
SA STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON SMD/mnr Date dictated 4/17/68

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- 7) TOBIE WYNN
Room No. 204
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 3204 St.
Columbus, Georgia
- 8) BERNARD LEE
Room No. 206 (on April 3, 1968)
Room No. 205 (on April 4, 1968)
address: 334 Auburn Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia
- 9) TRACY WRIGHT
Room No. 208
on April 3-4, 1968
no address given
- 10) ANDREW YOUNG
Room No. 209
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 334 Auburn Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia
- 11) JOHN WILLIAM
Room No. 210
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 334 Auburn Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia
- 12) WARREN LARDSON
Room No. 211
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 1076 Walton Avenue
Dayton, Ohio
- 13) EUGENE COURTNEY
Room No. 212
on April 3-4, 1968
no address given
- 14) WILLIAM MALONEY
Room No. 301
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 334 Auburn Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia

- 15) P. A. RANCE
Room No. 303 (on April 3, 1968)
Room No. 200 (on April 4, 1968)
no address given

- 16) JAMES ORANGE
Room No. 304
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 334 Auburn Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia

- 17) JESSIE JACKSON
Room No. 305
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 366 East 47th Street
Chicago, Illinois

- 18) MARTIN KING
Room No. 306
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 334 Auburn Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia

- 19) RALPH ABERNATHY
Room No. 306
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 334 Auburn Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia

- 20) DOROTHY COTTON
Room No. 307
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 334 Auburn Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia

- 21) JAMES LOVE
Room No. 308
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 8231 Chancery Court
Alexandria, Virginia

- 22) JOSEPH LOUW
Room No. 309
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 45 Tiemann Place
New York, New York

- 23) CHARLES BALLARD
Room No. 310
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 506 Kansas Street
Atlanta, Georgia
- 24) STERLING TUCKER
Room No. 311
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 626 Third Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C.
- 25) Reverend SAMUEL KYLES
Room No. 312
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 704 South Parkway East
Memphis, Tennessee
- 26) JEAN SMITH
Room No. 314
on April 3-4, 1968
no address given
- 27) MABELLE HENDRICKS
Room No. 315
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 767 Peachtree Street
Atlanta, Georgia
- 28) JAMES WELDON
Room No. 316
on April 3-4, 1968
address: 111 Hunter Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia
- 29) A. D. KING
Room No. 201
on April 4, 1968
address: Louisville, Kentucky
- 30) OFFELIN RUTHERFORD
Room No. 202
on April 4, 1968
address: 334 Auburn Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia

- 31) J. B. WILLIAMS
Room No. 203
on April 4, 1968
address: 2510 Jackson Avenue
Forrest City, Arkansas
- 32) HENRY ANTHONY
Room No. 206
on April 4, 1968
address: 334 Auburn Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia
- 33) BERNARD LAFAYETTE
Room No. 206
on April 4, 1968
address: 334 Auburn Avenue
Atlanta, Georgia
- 34) C. A. DAVIS
Room 207
on April 4, 1968
address: Louisville, Kentucky
- 35) L. B. WARD
Room No. 207
on April 4, 1968
address: Louisville, Kentucky
- 36) HERMAN SWEAT
Room No. 214
on April 4, 1968
no address given
- 37) EARL CALDWELL
Room No. 215
on April 4, 1968
no address given
- 38) JOHN HALL
Room No. 1
on April 4, 1968
no address given
- 39) S. MC COLLOUGH
Room No. 12
on April 4, 1968
address: 6618 South Woodlawn Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

ME 44-1987

6

- 40) ----- HILL (first name not given)
Room No. 13
on April 4, 1968
no address given
- 41) JIMER GUEMOOR
Room No. 14
on April 4, 1968
address: 750 Pearl Street
Grenada, Mississippi
- 42) Reverend H. VERNER
Room No. 202
on April 4, 1968
address: 5320 South Drexel Avenue
Chicago, Illinois
- 43) Reverend W. BENNETT
Room No. 202
on April 4, 1968
address: 5320 South Drexel Avenue
Chicago, Illinois
- 44) GARY MASSONI
Room No. 214
on April 4, 1968
address: 366 East 47th Street
Chicago, Illinois
- 45) JAMES BEVEL
unknown room number
on April 4, 1968
address: 8407 South Ribash Avenue
Chicago, Illinois

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date April 26, 1968

Reverend SAMUEL B. KYLES, minister of the Monumental Baptist Church, 704 South Parkway East, who resides at 2215 South Parkway East, Memphis, Tennessee, on interview advised as follows:

Reverend KYLES, who has lived in Memphis for approximately the past eight years, is on the Executive Board of the Memphis, Tennessee, Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and is also a member of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC), the national headquarters of which is Atlanta, Georgia, and the President of which, up until April 4, 1968, was Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Reverend KYLES advised that a sanitation workers' strike began in Memphis, Tennessee, February 12, 1968, and that shortly after its start a group of Negro ministers in Memphis, including himself, banded together to form a group which adopted the name of Community on the Move for Equality (COME), raising funds for the sanitation strikers and assisting them in daily marches and other strike-support activity. He stated that as early as March 18, 1968, he, along with some of the other COME leaders, induced Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., to come to Memphis where, on the night of March 18, 1968, he gave an inspiring talk at Mason Temple to approximately 10,000 to 12,000 people, urging the Negro community of Memphis to unite behind the sanitation workers.

KYLES and some of the other COME leaders also induced Dr. KING to return to Memphis on the morning of March 28, 1968, to lead a massive downtown march in support of the sanitation workers.

Considerable breaking of downtown windows and looting resulted during this march, as a result of which KYLES stated the sanitation strike received nationwide publicity, and Dr. KING agreed to return to Memphis, along with other SCLC staff members, in early April, 1968, to continue support on behalf of the sanitation workers.

37

On 4/23/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

SAs HOWELL S. LOWE
by and WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE WHL:gmh Date dictated 4/25/68

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Reverend KYLES recalled that Dr. KING actually returned to Memphis on Wednesday morning, April 3, 1968, with several of his staff associates including the Vice President of SCLC, Reverend RALPH D. ABERNATHY, and his administrative assistant BERNARD LEE. They all checked into the Lorraine Hotel and Motel, 406 Mulberry Street, Memphis, and actually KYLES had rented rooms for some of the SCLC staff members under his name. He pointed out that actually he was registered in Room 312 of the Lorraine Motel as of April 3, 1968, although he did not physically occupy this room and did not now recall the exact SCLC individual who occupied Room 312. He recalled that Dr. KING occupied Room 306, as did Reverend RALPH D. ABERNATHY.

He recalled that Dr. KING and his staff remained in Memphis on the night of April 3, 1968, and also remained in Memphis on April 4, 1968. In addition, he pointed out that there had been widespread publicity in not only the Memphis news media, including the two daily white newspapers, but also on virtually all of the radio and television stations concerning the presence of Dr. KING and his staff in Memphis and of the fact that they were staying at the Lorraine Motel. He stated he could not recall the specific radio broadcast but there was at least one broadcast, possibly more, which even gave the room number, namely Room 306, in which Dr. KING was staying in Memphis, and that this information was readily available to anyone who tended to read the newspaper or took the time to listen to the radio news broadcasts. In other words, he said it was no secret as to where Dr. KING was staying.

Reverend KYLES recalled that he personally went to the Lorraine Motel at approximately 3:30 p.m. on April 4, 1968, and recalled that the Operation Breadbasket band, a singing group of the SCLC, was rehearsing in one of the rooms in the motel, this group being led by BEN BRANCH, a former music teacher of Memphis, Tennessee. KYLES joined this group and they all sang various hymns and SCLC songs until approximately 5 p.m. At this point, Reverend KYLES went to Room 306 of the Lorraine Motel to visit with Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., and Reverend RALPH D. ABERNATHY. He pointed out that he had earlier invited Dr. KING and Reverend ABERNATHY to his home at 2215 South Parkway East for a "soul dinner" on the evening of April 4, 1968, pointing out

that Dr. KING and Reverend ABERNATHY both savored "soul food," which would normally consist of neck bones, chitterlings, turnip greens and black-eyed peas, and that his wife had consented to cook such a dinner for Dr. KING and his group. He pointed out that both KING and ABERNATHY had been reminded by him earlier that dinner was to be at approximately 6 p.m.

He recalled that during the approximate period from 5:30 p.m. to 5:55 p.m., April 4, 1968, that Dr. KING, Reverend ABERNATHY and Reverend KYLES sat and talked in Room 306 as Dr. KING and ABERNATHY dressed in preparation for the dinner appointment. At a time estimated by KYLES as being 5:55 p.m., or thereabouts, Dr. KING walked out of Room 306 of the Lorraine Motel, the door of which faces west and overlooks a swimming pool and parking area onto Mulberry Street, which is a narrow north-south street in Memphis. Dr. KING's room, 306, was on the second floor and as one walks out of the room there is a balcony and walkway area, the balcony having an iron rail approximately three feet high to keep one from falling off the balcony. Dr. KING, KYLES recalled, stood on the balcony and was speaking with various people standing in the parking area of the motel directly beneath him. One of the persons with whom Dr. KING was speaking was Reverend JESSE JACKSON, an SCLC staff member from Chicago, Illinois. KYLES recalled leaving Room 306 and going out and talking with Dr. KING, telling him not to bring too many people to his house or there would not be enough food to satisfy all of them. KYLES also recalled that SOLOMON JONES, a local Negro who works for one of the funeral homes, had been Dr. KING's chauffeur while in Memphis and that KING may have made some comment to JONES about getting the car ready for their trip to the KYLES residence.

Reverend KYLES also recalled that at about this period of time Reverend ABERNATHY had applied shaving cream to his face preparing to take a quick shave before departing to dinner and that KYLES and KING were standing side by side on the balcony and he also recalled that KING spoke to CHAUNCEY ESKRIDGE who is an attorney for SCLC and who was in Memphis with the SCLC staff.

Others recalled by KYLES being on the ground level within viewing and listening distance of Dr. KING were Reverend JAMES L. BEVEL, also of the SCLC staff and who has recently been living in Chicago, and several young Negroes, names not recalled, who had been hanging around and supporting the sanitation workers strike. He pointed out that he would put these folks in the category of "hero worshipers" who liked to be around KING and other important personages.

At this point, KYLES estimated the time as being approximately 6 o'clock p.m., and stated that he, KYLES, started to walk north on the balcony walkway toward the old Lorraine Hotel portion of the establishment for the purpose of getting his car, which was parked on the parking lot. He recalled looking down and saying something to CHAUNCEY ESKRIDGE who was standing on the ground and estimated that he had walked approximately four door-lengths north of Room 306 when he, KYLES, heard a loud but possibly muffled sound. At first he thought it was a noise from the immediate area possibly caused by the backfiring of an automobile or possibly even a loud firecracker which had exploded in the immediate vicinity.

He was next conscious of seeing Reverend JAMES L. BEVEL who had been standing on the ground north of Room 306 running to the motel area ostensibly for cover and recalled some unknown individual yelling in a loud voice, "They've shot MARTIN." At this point he turned around and looked back south toward the entrance of Room 306 and was next conscious of seeing Dr. KING's prone body. KING was resting on the balcony floor with his back to the floor, his face facing upward, his feet partially protruding through the grill work of the iron railway, and his head headed in a south-easterly direction toward the passageway just south of Room 306.

KYLES continued that he took a quick glance at KING's prone body after reaching same and saw a gaping hole in what he recalled to be the right side of KING's face in the area of his cheek bone and protruding downward into his neck area. He stated that he was not familiar with guns or gun wounds but he subconsciously realized that the

noise which he had heard had undoubtedly been that of a gunshot which had wounded Dr. KING. He pointed out that KING's eyes appeared to be open and that he personally felt KING may still have been alive. He was not conscious of anyone else near KING's body at this time and pointed out that he went into a state of shock and ran rather hysterically into Room 306 where he attempted to use a telephone for the purpose of calling an ambulance. In the meantime, ABERNATHY had run out of Room 306 with shaving cream still on his face in an effort to see what had happened to Dr. KING. KYLES pointed out that in his confusion he was unable to pick up the phone properly to call the motel switchboard to ask for an ambulance and recalled ABERNATHY running back into the room and telling him to settle down and gain his composure as everything would be all right.

KYLES came back out of the room to the vicinity of KING's body and was next conscious of seeing several uniformed Memphis Police officers running on foot toward the vicinity of KING's body and recalled some of them yelling, "What happened?" He stated that he recalled yelling at some of the police officers to call an ambulance. He was next conscious of Reverend ABERNATHY leaning over KING's prone body attempting to talk with KING or to get some response from him and could recall hearing ABERNATHY say, "MARTIN, can you hear me?"

Reverend KYLES recalled running into Room 306 and grabbing up a bedspread off one of the beds which he brought out to use to cover KING's body. He recalled that a white male employee of the United States Justice Department, name not recalled, who had been staying at the motel brought a towel which someone held over the large gaping wound on the right side of KING's face.

Within a few moments an ambulance arrived to take KING's body to a hospital and he recalled that a JOSEPH LOUW, an African who is a photographer and who was staying at the motel, took some pictures in the immediate vicinity and that many of the people who by this time had come to the balcony seemed to point toward the west side of Mulberry where there is a thicket of bushes and empty land bordered further on the west by the back side of some old two-story brick buildings which face on Main Street and indicated in

their pointing and comments that the shot probably came from that general direction. In other words, the shot came from the west toward the east.

Thereafter, according to Reverend KYLES, an ambulance crew took Dr. KING's body to the St. Joseph Hospital.

Reverend KYLES looked at a series of photographs which appeared in "Life Magazine," issue of April 12, 1968, some of which were taken immediately after the shooting of Dr. KING and prior to the arrival of the ambulance and which depict Dr. KING's prone body lying face up on the concrete walkway on the second floor balcony of the Lorraine Motel and taken by Photographer JOSEPH LOUW. He stated that the only people that he could identify by name in the early photographs prior to the arrival of the ambulance were Reverend ANDREW YOUNG of the SCLC staff and some local unidentified Negroes who were apparently assisting in an effort to render immediate first aid to Dr. KING. Reverend KYLES pointed out that these photographs must have been taken almost immediately following the shooting of Dr. KING because they do not show the bedspread over KING's body.

He stated that very few people actually were cognizant of the fact that Dr. KING was to be a dinner guest at his home on the evening of April 4, 1968; that among the guests who had been invited to his recollection were Dr. KING, his brother, Reverend A. D. WILLIAMS KING, and two of the latter's companions, Mrs. LUKIE WARD and Mrs. GEORGIA M. DAVIS, both of Louisville, Kentucky; and that Reverend ABERNATHY was to have been there, as was CHAUNCEY ESKRIDGE. He stated that Reverend ANDREW YOUNG and HOSEA WILLIAMS, both of the SCLC staff, were also to be his dinner guests on that evening.

He stated that to his recollection there had been no publicity concerning the fact that KING and his small party were to be his dinner guests and that it appeared to be a mere coincidence that Dr. KING walked out in front of the doorway of Room 306 and stood there some four to five minutes prior to the time that he was shot.

Reverend KYLES stated that he had searched his memory during the intervening time subsequent to Dr. KING's being shot and that at no time could he recall seeing anyone to the west or northwest from which direction he is now convinced the shot came. He saw no one looking out any of the windows in the buildings facing Main Street, the rear entrances of which would have faced the Motel; and he saw no one on the ground below.

He stated that he talked with CHAUNCEY ESKRIDGE shortly after the shooting and that ESKRIDGE who was on the ground level in the parking area in front of the Motel stated that after the shot he, ESKRIDGE, had run west from the Motel to the middle of Mulberry Street but that he did not see anyone with any firearm either on the ground or in any of the buildings. Reverend KYLES recalled that SOLOMON JONES has been reported to have stated that he saw someone possibly with a white headpiece in the ground area just west of the west side of Mulberry Street behind the bushes and possibly saw someone drop something in that area.

Reverend KYLES stated that in fairness to JONES, JONES could not have seen the ground area which he had originally described because of the fact that there is a brick retaining wall which surrounds the swimming pool and that JONES would have been behind this wall when KING was shot and could not have seen behind the bushes on the west side of Mulberry Street as this wall is about eight feet tall.

Reverend KYLES concluded that none of his acquaintances in the SCLC or other acquaintances in Memphis who have been close to the Negro movement can recall anything concerning any suspicious movements in the vicinity of the Lorraine Motel immediately preceding or during the time that Dr. KING was shot.

ME 44-1987

HSL:PEH

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On April 18, 1968, CHARLES BALLARD, 830 Kansas Street, Memphis, Tennessee, personally contacted the Memphis, Tennessee, FBI Office and advised SA HOWELL S. LOWE and SA WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE that he registered into room 310 of the Lorraine Motel on the afternoon of March 30, 1968, and remained registered at this motel until April 4, 1968. He departed from this motel just prior to 6 P.M. the evening of April 4, 1968.

BALLARD advised he was not at the motel at the time Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING was shot and advised he has no knowledge regarding who may have shot Dr. KING. He stated that during the period he resided at the motel, no one inquired of him of any information regarding Dr. KING, and he noticed no one in particular expressing any unusual interest in the location of Dr. KING's room at the motel.

BALLARD stated that when he departed the motel at approximately 5:45 P.M., April 4, 1968, there were several persons walking around in front of the motel. He stated he paid no particular attention to these persons and is unable to recall anyone in this group whom he knows.

ME 44-1987

WHL:cjs

1

On April 23, 1968, SA's HOWELL S. LOWE and WILLIAM H. LAWRENCE interviewed an individual identifying himself as JAMES ELMORE PHILLIPS, JR., who resides at 1592 Short Street, Memphis, Tennessee, and who is a senior at LeMoyne College, 807 - 25 Walker Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee.

Mr. PHILLIPS advised that on or about March 30, 1968, he checked into room 315 of the Lorraine Motel, 406 Mulberry, Memphis, and continued to stay there until the late afternoon of April 4, 1968. He stated he well recalled the arrival of Rev. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., President, Southern Christian Leadership Conference, in Memphis on the morning of April 3, 1968, and recalled that Dr. KING and several of his Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) Staff associates checked into the Lorraine Motel on April 3, 1968, with Dr. KING staying in room 306 on the second floor, which was several doors north of the room occupied by PHILLIPS.

PHILLIPS stated that he left the motel about 5:45 p.m. Thursday, April 4, 1968, with some of his associates, CHARLES BALLARD, CHARLES LAVERNE CABBAGE, JOHN BURRELL SMITH, and EDWINA HARRELL, who also had been staying at the motel. PHILLIPS stated he left on foot, walked south on Mulberry to Butler Street, west on Butler to Main Street, where he caught a #45 "Walker Homes" bus, a city bus, going south on Main Street, catching this bus almost immediately after arriving on Main Street.

He stated he rode this bus to South Memphis and walked to 1644 Hanauer, apt. 2, the apartment currently occupied by JOHN B. SMITH. He stated upon arrival at the SMITH residence, someone had on the television and they heard the report on television that Rev. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., had been shot at approximately 6:01 p.m. as he stood on the second floor balcony of the Lorraine Motel.

PHILLIPS stated that at no time during the period in which he stayed at the Lorraine Motel did anyone, to his recollection, inquire as to where Dr. KING was staying or as to which room was being occupied by Dr. KING and he saw no individuals in the area arousing his suspicions.

PHILLIPS stated that he paid no particular attention to the buildings on South Main Street just west of the Lorraine Motel and recalled seeing no one look out any of the windows in

ME 44-1987

2-

those buildings during the late afternoon of April 4, 1968, when he was in the process of leaving the motel.

PHILLIPS stated that as he was walking from the motel toward the bus stop, as indicated above, he did not see anything of an unusual nature.

ME 44-1987

PERSONS AT JIM'S GRILL,
418 SOUTH MAIN STREET,
ON APRIL 4, 1968

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/7/68

LOYD JOWERS, owner, Jim's Grill, 418 South Main Street, advised that at approximately 3:55 p.m. on April 4, 1968, he arrived at the Grill, and parked directly in back of a white Mustang that was parked on the street directly in front of his Grill. He stated that he believed that the car had Mississippi license plates on it because they were of an orange or orangish-yellow color. He stated that upon parking the car he went into the Grill where he saw a stranger sitting at the bar having a meal. He stated that it was unusual for him to get any strange customers in the Grill since most of his customers were local people of a steady nature. Mr. JOWERS described the stranger as follows:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Height:	5'8" to 5'9"
Weight:	160 pounds
Build:	Heavy
Age:	27 to 30
Hair:	Sandy
Complexion:	Ruddy
Dress:	Wearing a dark suit.

He stated that the man finished his meal and left the Grill, and he could not notice in which direction he walked, but he did not get into the white Mustang, which was parked in front of the Grill.

Mr. JOWERS stated that this same individual returned to the Grill at about 8:00 p.m. on April 5, 1968, and ordered breakfast. Mr. JOWERS stated that in his estimation, this individual acted strangely because he seemed very calm when everyone else at the Grill and in the area was excited over the shooting. In view of the fact that he felt the individual was acting strange and also because he was a stranger in the area, Mr. JOWERS called the Police, and told them that he had a man of a suspicious nature at the Grill. He said that when the stranger

48

On 4/5/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # 44-1987
by SAs JOHN W. BAUER
STEPHEN M. DARLINGTON / JWB:jms Date dictated 4/5/68

ME 44-1987

2

finished his breakfast, he left the Grill and was arrested on the sidewalk in front of the Grill by the Memphis Police Department.

Lieutenant JIM HARRISON, Homicide Bureau, Memphis Police Department, later identified this arrested individual as GENE PEARSON CRAWFORD, 32-B Westwood Gardens, Jackson, Tennessee, who was determined to have had no part in the murder of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/15/68

Mr. GILBERT STEPHEN (STEVE) CUPPLES, 935 Parkhaven Drive, Memphis, Tennessee, advised he is employed as a clerk in the Fine Paper Department of Tayloe Paper Company, 425 South Front Street, Memphis.

Mr. CUPPLES stated he left work at approximately 5:03 p.m., drove his 1959 white Chevrolet Impala, and parked it immediately across the street from Jim's Grill located at 418 South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee. He said he parked the car heading south and immediately behind in the next available parking space to KENNY FOSTER's Camero. He said when he parked his car he recalls seeing several cars parked across the street in the vicinity of the entrance to Jim's Grill. He said he recalls seeing JIMMY WALKER's white Fairlane Ford parked directly south of the fire hydrant located near the entrance of Jim's Grill and recalls seeing JOWERS' Cadillac located in the first parking space north of the fire hydrant. He said JOWERS operates Jim's Grill. CUPPLES stated he recalls seeing a white Mustang that could have been a 1967 or possibly 1968 model parked directly in front of JOWERS' Cadillac. He said this Mustang had black wall tires and believes it had large hubcaps. He said when he entered Jim's Grill he walked behind JOWERS' Cadillac and, therefore, did not notice very many details of the Mustang. He said he does not recall the color of the interior of the Mustang and did not notice what license was on the Mustang. He said he got the impression the Mustang was dirty or not freshly washed.

Mr. CUPPLES stated he was playing the pinball machine and the shuffleboard machine and that a great deal of noise was caused by these machines and the jukebox and, therefore, he did not hear what activity was occurring outside the grill. He stated sometime later he learned, at approximately 6:05 p.m., a deputy sheriff came to the door of the grill and instructed everyone to stay inside the grill until further notice. He stated shortly thereafter he and others in the grill looked out the front window and he recalls that the Mustang he had seen parked in front of JOWERS' Cadillac was gone. Mr. CUPPLES stated he did not see anyone enter the Mustang or drive it away.

50

On 4/12/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987

by SA O. JAMES HOLBROOK
SA HARLEY E. GYLFE HEG:raj Date dictated 4/13/68

ME 44-1987

2

Mr. CUPPLES advised that after the deputy sheriff had told them to stay in the grill he believes it was a police officer that entered and told them all to write their names and addresses on a piece of paper. He said it was not until then that he and others learned that MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot. He stated he did not hear a shot that was fired.

Mr. CUPPLES advised he cannot furnish any additional information concerning activity in this area.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/15/68

Mr. DAVID M. WOOD, 3639 Towns, Memphis, advised he is employed with Tayloe Paper Company, 420 South Front Street, Memphis, Tennessee, as a city desk clerk.

Mr. WOOD advised he left work at approximately 5:00 p.m., on April 4, 1968, and walked alone to Jim's Grill, located at 418 South Main Street, Memphis. He said he walked down Huling Street to South Main and crossed South Main diagonally toward Jim's Grill. He said he would estimate it was approximately 5:05 p.m., when he walked in front of a Mustang automobile which was parked close to Jim's Grill. He explained there is a fire plug on the east side of South Main Street very close to the entrance of Jim's Grill. He stated immediately to the north of the fire plug was parked a white Cadillac that is owned by the owner of Jim's Grill. He said immediately in front of this Cadillac, which would be the second space north of the fire plug, was parked a Mustang. He stated he is familiar with Mustangs and knows this was a Mustang automobile. He said he felt that this was a white car that appeared to be dirty and not recently washed. He said this car did not have hubcaps, had black tires, but he did not notice the interior of the car. He said he did not look at the license, but glanced down and there was no front license plate. He said also he noticed in the window there was no city of Memphis sticker in this window. He said he does not recall that anything else was hanging from hangers or the rear view mirror of this car.

Mr. WOOD stated he entered Jim's Grill and began playing shuffle board and pinball machine located inside the grill. WOOD explained the shuffle board is located in the northwest corner of this building and that it is close to the front window of Jim's Grill. He stated, however, he was interested in playing shuffle board and the pinball machine and did not look out the window while he was playing either machine. He added, however, it is possible he may have looked out the window, but stated he does not recall seeing any activity in the street nor did he see anyone in the Mustang or drive away in the Mustang.

52

On 4/12/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987
by SA O. JAMES HOLBROOK
SA HARLEY E. GYLFE HEG:raj 4/13/68
by _____ Date dictated _____

WOOD advised he was not aware of the activity outside on the street or that MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot until a deputy sheriff came into the grill with a gun in his hand advising everyone to stay in the grill until they were notified they could leave. He said almost immediately Mr. JOWERS, owner of Jim's Grill, locked the door to keep everyone in the place and to prevent anyone else from entering. WOOD stated that after the door was locked they ceased playing pinball and shuffle board and looked out the window. He said this was shortly after 6:00 p.m., and he noticed at that time the white Mustang that had been parked in front of the grill was gone. He added he recalls that a ~~Mustang~~ owned by JIMMY WALKER was parked just south of the fire plug and that just north of the Mustang was parked a white Lincoln Continental automobile. He said in front of the Lincoln was parked a white Rambler and added there were no cars parked in front of the Rambler to the corner of the intersection of Huling and South Main. He said he also recalls that STEVE CUPPLES' 1959 Chevrolet was parked across the street headed south and that KENNETH FOSTER's Camero was parked directly across the street from Jim's Grill. He stated he cannot recall any other cars parked on this street.

Mr. WOOD stated he recalls that when JIMMY WALKER entered Jim's Grill which was shortly after 5:00 p.m., that WALKER made a remark that the Mustang took his parking place. He said he knows therefore that there was a Mustang parked in front of Jim's Grill.

Mr. WOOD stated he did not see anyone enter and drive away in the Mustang and he does not recall seeing anyone running or carrying a package in the immediate vicinity of Jim's Grill during the time he was in Jim's Grill.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/15/68

Mr. KENNETH W. FOSTER, 3072 New Willow Road, Apartment 9, Memphis, Tennessee, advised he is employed as a city desk clerk for Tayloe Paper Company, 420 South Front Street, Memphis.

Mr. FOSTER advised he left work at approximately 5:00 p.m., with BILLY HOARD, picked up his car and drove to a parking space immediately across the street from Jim's Grill, located 418 South Main Street, Memphis. He said he would estimate it was approximately 5:05 p.m., when he entered Jim's Grill with BILLY HOARD. He stated he recalls specifically that he walked between a white Mustang and a white Cadillac that were parked near the entrance to Jim's Grill. He said he noticed the Mustang had black tires, but does not recall if it had hubcaps. He added he does not recall looking to determine if the Mustang had stickers on the window or it had a local license. He said he noticed specifically that the white Mustang was parked in this area because this is the usual parking place that JIMMY WALKER generally takes when he parks in this area. Mr. FOSTER explained that JIMMY WALKER parked his white Ford Fairlane just south of the fire hydrant located very close to the entrance of Jim's Grill. He said immediately north of the hydrant was parked JOWERS' white Cadillac and immediately in front of the white Cadillac to the north was parked a white Mustang. He said he recalls that BARRY TUBBS parked his white Lincoln Continental immediately in front of the white Mustang and that there was a white Rambler parked immediately in front of the Continental. He said he does not know who owns the Rambler.

Mr. FOSTER advised he was in the grill playing pinball machine and shuffle board machine. He said he was not aware of any activity taking place in the immediate area and did not hear a shot and was not aware of the shooting until some time after a deputy sheriff came to the door and told everyone to stay in the grill until advised to leave. He said after the deputy sheriff left he and others went to the window and looked out. He said he noticed at that time that the white Mustang which had been parked in front of JOWERS' white Cadillac was gone. He said he did not see anyone in this Mustang and did not see anyone

54

On 4/12/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987

SA O. JAMES HOLBROOK

SA HARLEY E. GYLFE

HEG:raj

4/13/68

by _____ Date dictated _____

ME 44-1987

2

drive this Mustang away. He stated he has no idea when the car left. He said this Mustang was a late model car, but does not know the exact year. He said it was not dirty and yet it was not very recently washed. He said the interior of the car was dark, possibly red, black or blue. He said he does not recall seeing anything hanging from the rearview mirror or from a hanger in the car.

FOSTER advised he cannot recall any additional information concerning the Mustang or any individuals in the area.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/681

Mr. PAUL SANDER GARGAS, JR., 2521 Thompson Street, West Memphis, Arkansas, advised he is employed as an inside salesman by Tayloe Paper Company, 420 South Front Street, Memphis.

Mr. GARGAS stated he left work at approximately 5:00 p.m., on April 4, 1968, and shortly thereafter walked with STEVE CUPPLES, FRANKLIN RAY, and JIMMY WALKER to Jim's Grill located at 418 South Main Street, Memphis. He said they walked down Huling Street toward South Main Street and when they reached that intersection they walked diagonally across toward Jim's Grill. He said he recalls walking between some cars possibly in front of JOWERS' white Cadillac that is usually parked in front of the grill. He said he recalls seeing five or six cars parked in the immediate vicinity in front of the grill on both sides of the street. He does not recall any specific car other than JIMMY WALKER's white Ford Fairlane parked just south of the entrance of Jim's Grill. He said he was playing pinball machine and shuffleboard machine and left Jim's Grill approximately 5:40 to 5:45 p.m. He said he left alone and walked across the street to his car that was parked in Fred P. Gattas Company parking lot. He said he recalls there were several people in Jim's Grill when he left, but does not recall any individuals in the immediate vicinity of the entrance to Jim's Grill at the time he left. He said he does not recall looking out the window at any time at Jim's Grill, but may have. He said he does not recall any cars driving past or in the immediate vicinity of Jim's Grill other than those mentioned previously. He said he has a feeling there was a car parked in front of JOWERS' Cadillac when he entered, but does not recall if the car was there when he left. Mr. GARGAS advised he cannot furnish any additional information concerning individuals or cars in the immediate vicinity of Jim's Grill during the time he entered and left Jim's Grill.

56

On 4/12/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987
by SA O. JAMES HOLBROOK
SA HARLEY E. GYLFE HEG:raj Date dictated 4/13/68

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/15/68

Mr. BARRY ELWOOD TUBBS, 315 Dias Street, Trumann, Arkansas, advised he is employed as a sales representative for Tayloe Paper Company, 425 Front Street, Memphis.

Mr. TUBBS stated he left work at approximately 5:00 p.m., April 4, 1968, picked up his car, a 1961 four-door, white Lincoln Continental, and drove to a parking place in the vicinity of Jim's Grill located at 418 South Main Street, Memphis. Mr. TUBBS advised he recalls that he had to park near the intersection of Huling Street and South Main because there were two other cars parked near the entrance to Jim's Grill. He said there were usually a few cars in the street when he goes there, but this time most of the parking places were filled on the east side of Main near Jim's Grill.

He said he was one of the first, if not the first, from Tayloe Paper Company who went to Jim's Grill. He said he played shuffleboard and the pinball machines and drank three or four beers before a deputy sheriff came to the door and advised everyone to stay in the grill. Mr. TUBBS stated as soon as the deputy sheriff left he and others went to the window and looked out. He said he recalls seeing JIMMY WALKER's white Fairlane parked just south of the fire hydrant near the entrance of Jim's Grill. He said he recalls seeing STEVE CUPPLES' car parked across the street, and recalls seeing JOWERS' white Cadillac parked just north of the fire hydrant mentioned above.

Mr. TUBBS stated he does not recall specifically what car was parked in front of JOWERS' Cadillac, but does recall there was a car there. Mr. TUBBS stated he was not aware of any activity taking place in the immediate area and was not aware of the reason that the deputy sheriff told them to stay there. He stated it was sometime later that an individual he believed to be with the Memphis Police Department asked them to all write their names and addresses on a sheet of paper. He said it was then they learned MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot. He stated he did not know KING was in the area and he did not hear the shot because of the noise.

57

On 4/12/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987

by SA O. JAMES HOLBROOK
SA HARLEY E. GYLFE HEG:raj Date dictated 4/13/68

ME 44-1987

2

in the grill because of the shuffleboard and pinball machines and the jukebox.

Mr. TUBBS stated he does not have any information concerning the activity that took place in the immediate vicinity of Jim's Grill and cannot furnish any information concerning cars in the immediate area and the individuals in the immediate area.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/15/68

Mr. BILLY RAY HOARD, 1592 South Highland, Memphis, advised he is employed as a city desk clerk, Tayloe Paper Company, 420 South Front Street, Memphis.

Mr. HOARD advised he left work at Tayloe Paper Company at about 4:55 p.m., April 4, 1968, and walked with KENNY FOSTER to FOSTER's car and then drove to a parking place directly across the street from Jim's Grill which is located at 418 South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee. He stated that FOSTER drove a 1967 blue Camero car with black vinyl top. He stated he and FOSTER entered Jim's Grill at approximately 5:00 p.m., and he and FOSTER and others in the grill immediately began to play the pinball machine and shuffle board machine.

Mr. HOARD stated that when he walked toward Jim's Grill he recalls seeing a line of white cars parked immediately in front of the grill. He said he would estimate there were four or five cars in that vicinity and recalls seeing JIMMY WALKER's car parked behind and just south of the fire hydrant near the corner. He also recalls seeing Mr. JOWERS' car, a white Cadillac, parked immediately in front of the grill. He said other than that he cannot recall seeing any specific cars in that area.

Mr. HOARD stated that after they had been playing these machines for a while, and he was not cognizant of the exact time, he recalls a deputy sheriff came to the door with a gun drawn and told everyone to stay in the grill. He stated sometime later he came back and told them to all write their names and addresses down on a sheet of paper. Mr. HOARD stated that after the deputy sheriff came in and after Mr. JOWERS locked the door he recalls going to the window and looking out. He said he seems to recall then the only cars he specifically recalls were JOWERS' Cadillac and WALKER's Ford Fairlane.

Mr. HOARD stated he did not hear a shot or any noise similar to the noise of a shot at approximately 6:00 p. m., on April 4, 1968, but added there was a great deal of noise in the grill and, therefore, he could not hear the shot. He said

59

On 4/12/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987

by SA O. JAMES HOLBROOK
SA HARLEY E. GYLFE HEG:raj Date dictated 4/13/68

ME 44-1987

2

he does not know the names of any other individuals that were in the grill at that time other than several employees from Tayloe Paper Company.

Mr. HOARD stated he did not see any activity in the street just prior to and immediately after the shot and does not recall seeing anyone running or driving away from that immediate area. He said he cannot furnish any information as to the identity of the individual who shot MARTIN LUTHER KING.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/12/68

Mr. ROBERT GEIGER, 749 Dickinson, Memphis, was interviewed at the Fred P. Gattas Distributing Company, Inc., where he furnished the following information:

He advised that he is employed as a warehouseman and that on April 4, 1968, he came to work at 11:19 a.m., and left at 6:27 p.m. He stated that he left about 5:00 p.m., to go to supper at Jim's Grill, 418 South Main, and returned to work at about 5:30 p.m. While he was at Jim's Grill he noticed nothing which would indicate unusual activity, and stated he could furnish no information in this matter. He did not learn that anything had happened until later on at work when another employee told them to get ready to go home. He recalls that he looked out of the window at that time and saw many police vehicles in the area. He stated that while eating at Jim's Grill he did not recall seeing a white Mustang on South Main Street nor does he recall seeing anyone go up the stairs to the boarding house which is adjacent to the grill. He ate alone and stated that if there were any strangers at Jims he would not have noticed them.

61

On 4/11/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987
by SA EUGENE A. MEDORI, JR.
SA JACK D. VAHRENWALD EAM:raj Date dictated 4/11/68

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/15/68

Mr. JAMES A. WALKER, JR., 1066 Poplar Avenue, Apartment 3, Memphis, advised he is an assistant buyer for the Tayloe Paper Company, 420 South Front Street, Memphis, Tennessee.

Mr. WALKER advised he left work about 5:15 p.m., on April 4, 1968, and drove his 1962 white Fairlane Ford to the area of Jim's Grill located at 418 South Main Street, Memphis. He stated he arrived at the area of Jim's Grill at approximately 5:20 p.m., and attempted to park in his usual parking place that is near the entrance to Jim's Grill. He said when he pulled up he noticed JOWERS' Cadillac parked in the first parking space just north of the fire hydrant that is near the entrance of Jim's Grill. He said he usually parks in the next parking space, but found that it was occupied by a white Mustang. He said as a result he had to back up and park in the first space just south of the above-mentioned fire hydrant. He said that he noticed prior to parking that BARRY TUBBS' Lincoln Continental was parked in front of the Mustang and that a white Rambler was parked near the corner and in front of the Continental.

Mr. WALKER stated he recalls that this was a 1966 white Mustang hardtop. He said the interior of the car was dark possibly red or black. He said he did not see the license on the car, but looked at the windows to see if there were any stickers. He said he was particularly aware of stickers because he has a habit of looking in the windows of cars to see if they belonged to a particular college fraternity. He said he does not recall seeing any stickers or antenna on the car. He said, however, there could have been an antenna that he did not notice. He said he did not look at the tires or the hubcaps and cannot furnish any other information concerning tires or stickers other than, as he recalls, the car appeared to be slightly dirty or at least not recently washed. He stated he does not recall looking into the car, but is certain that he would have seen a sticker especially on the rear window if there had been any stickers on the window of this Mustang.

62

On 4/12/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987

SA O. JAMES HOLBROOK
by SA HARLEY E. GYLFE HEG:raj Date dictated 4/13/68

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ME 44-1987

2

Concerning the Rambler that was parked in front of the Continental, he stated he believes this car belongs to an elderly white man whose name he does not know, but is very likely known by Mr. JOWERS, the owner and operator of Jim's Grill.

Mr. WALKER stated that he was concentrating on playing the pinball machine and the shuffleboard and listening to the jukebox and, therefore, was not aware of any activity that was taking place in that immediate area. He said that sometime later a deputy sheriff came to the door and instructed everyone to stay in the grill. He said the customers in Jim's Grill instructed JOWERS to lock the door so that no one could come in.

After the door was locked they went to the window and looked out and he said he does not recall seeing the Mustang there at that time. He said he is certain the Mustang was gone because he commented that his car was without a ticket on it. He had parked very close to the fire hydrant and possibly too close to be legally parked. He is certain there was another car parked behind him, but he does not recall make, model or color of that car. Mr. WALKER stated he cannot furnish any additional information concerning the car or any activity that occurred in that area.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 25, 1968

1

Mr. FRANK HOLT, 287 Butler Street, Memphis, Tennessee, advised he is employed as a trucker's helper to unload trucks at the M. E. Carter Company, 415 South Front Street, Memphis, Tennessee.

Mr. HOLT advised that on the evening of April 4, 1968, he left his residence at approximately 5:45 p.m., walked down to Calhoun Street, right on Calhoun to South Main Street, right on South Main, toward Huling Street.

Mr. HOLT stated that at approximately 6:00 p.m., when he was in front of Jim's Grill, located at 418 South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee, he was instructed by a Memphis police officer or a Shelby County Sheriff's officer to go in Jim's Grill and to stay off the street until further notice.

He stated he did not know, at that time, why he was instructed to enter Jim's Grill.

He said later a police officer requested that he write his name and address on a piece of paper. He said it was shortly after the police officer came into Jim's Grill that he and others in there learned that MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot. He said he left Jim's Grill at possibly 7:30 or 8:00 p.m., and went directly to his residence.

Mr. HOLT advised he did not hear the shot that killed MARTIN LUTHER KING. He said he does not recall meeting anyone on the street as he walked from Calhoun on South Main toward Jim's Grill. He said he does not recall seeing any cars parked on the street or driving on the street while he was walking on South Main Street.

Mr. HOLT commented that obviously he met some individuals or saw some individuals on the street and obviously saw cars driving on the street and parked on the street, but he was not aware of any of the activity on the street.

64

On 4/17/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA HARLEY E. GYLFE:tjm Date dictated 4/23/68

ME 44-1987

2

Mr. HOLT said he did not notice any activity because he was concerned about getting to work and, therefore, did not notice what was going on in the immediate area of Jim's Grill.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/15/68

Mr. WILLIAM ZENIE (BILL) REED, Room 6, Clarke Hotel, 106 Vance Street, Memphis, advised he is employed as a salesman for a photography firm and is currently working in the Memphis area.

Mr. REED stated that on April 4, 1968, he and RAY HENDRICKS stopped at Jim's Grill, 418 South Main Street, for something to eat. He said he was in Jim's Grill for some time and feels that he arrived there at approximately 4:30 p.m., and believes that he left between 5:15 p.m., and 5:30 p.m. He said when he left he picked up his hat and he and RAY HENDRICKS paid their check and left Jim's Grill. He said that they left the entrance of Jim's Grill and proceeded north on South Main Street for a few feet when RAY HENDRICKS remembered he left his jacket in Jim's Grill.

Mr. REED stated he waited in front of Jim's Grill while HENDRICKS went back for his jacket. He commented that while waiting he looked and saw a white Mustang was parked near the entrance of Jim's Grill. Mr. REED stated he does not have a car and is in the market for a car and was considering buying a Mustang and, therefore, he looked this car over.

He said he believed the car was an off-white color, that it was not dirty, but was not exactly clean either. He said he believes this car had not been recently washed. He said he does not recall the color of the interior, but believes that it was a dark color. He said he does not recall seeing anything inside the car other than five cartons lying on the back seat. He described these cartons as being the size of ten package cigarette carton. He said these cartons were red and white in color, but does not remember any lettering on the cartons nor does he remember whether the white or the red was predominant. He said when he saw these cartons he felt that the owner of this car was probably a traveling salesman.

Mr. REED stated he does not know whether or not any stickers were in the window of this car and he did not look

66

On 4/13/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987

SA HARLEY E. GYLFE/raj

4/13/68

by _____ Date dictated _____

at the license. He said he does not recall if this Mustang had whitewall tires and if it had wheel covers.

Mr. REED stated that after HENDRICKS obtained his jacket from Jim's Grill they proceeded north on South Main and walked on the east side of South Main Street. He said when they arrived at the intersection of Vance and South Main he was about ready to walk off the curb when for some unknown reason he looked around to see if there were any cars coming. He said as he looked back he saw a white Mustang about ready to turn the corner and go east on Vance from South Main Street. He said he does not know if this is the same car he saw parked in front of Jim's Grill, but added it seemed to be the same car. He said he did not see who was in the car, but believes it was a white male with white shirt, but does not recall if this individual had a tie or hat on. He said he had the impression this person was not young, but was not old. He said he would have no way of estimating the age of this person.

Mr. REED said the Mustang proceeded east down Vance Street and he has no idea where the car went after it turned the corner.

Mr. REED stated that he went to his room and that he had been in his room for quite some time, possibly as much as 15 minutes, when he heard numerous sirens in the immediate area going down toward Jim's Grill. He said he learned later that MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot and that the sirens he heard were from officers going to that immediate area.

Mr. REED advised he cannot furnish any additional information concerning any cars parked on the street or any people in that immediate area.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date April 25, 1968

Mr. RAY ALVIS HENDRIX, Room 14, Clark's Hotel, 106 Vance Street, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that he is employed by the Corps of Engineers, U. S. Government, on the dredge "Ockerson." Mr. HENDRIX stated he works about six months of nice weather and is off the other six months of the year.

Mr. HENDRIX stated that on the evening of April 4, 1968, he and BILL REED, who resides in Room 4 of this hotel, ate their dinner at Jim's Grill, located at 418 South Main Street, Memphis, Tennessee.

He stated they left the grill at approximately 5:30 p.m., and slowly walked to the Clark's Hotel. He said they walked on the east side of South Main Street. Mr. HENDRIX commented that when they left Jim's Grill, he forgot his jacket and had to return for the jacket. He said he learned later that while he was getting his jacket, BILL REED looked at a white Mustang that was parked almost in front of Jim's Grill. He said he did not notice this Mustang or any other cars parked in front of Jim's Grill. He stated, however, that when he and BILL REED approached the intersection of Vance and South Main Street, BILL REED pulled him back to the curb because a car was turning the corner. He said this car was a white Mustang and that after the car turned the corner, BILL REED commented to him that this was the Mustang that was parked in front of Jim's Grill, which he looked at while he, HENDRIX, was retrieving his jacket.

Mr. HENDRIX stated he did not see who was in the car, but believes there was only one person. He said he could not describe him and would not be able to identify the driver of this car.

Mr. HENDRIX stated that as they were returning to their rooms or possibly were just entering their rooms, they heard sirens in the immediate area and going south on South Main Street. He said he learned later that the sirens

68

On 4/17/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA HARLEY E. GYLFE:tjm Date dictated 4/23/68

were from police cars that were going to the scene of the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He said as near as he can recall, he heard the sirens about 6:00 p.m., or just a few minutes after 6:00 p.m., on April 4, 1968.

Mr. HENDRIX stated that the Mustang that turned the corner and proceeded east on Vance Street, did not turn the corner very fast or make the tires squeal. He said he did not watch which way the Mustang turned or how far it traveled on Vance Street.

Mr. HENDRIX also stated he cannot furnish any information as to the cars parked or traveling in the immediate area of Jim's Grill at the time that he and BILL REED left. He also stated he cannot furnish any information concerning individuals in the immediate area of Jim's Grill at the time he left to return to his room.

ME 44-1987

MEDICAL INFORMATION
RE
DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/19/68

Records of St. Joseph Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee, contain the following information concerning the admittance and treatment of DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. on the evening of April 4, 1968:

"EMERGENCY ROOM SUMMARY - Dr. Martin Luther King

"The following is an Emergency room Summary on Dr. Martin Luther King who was brought into the Emergency room by an ambulance stretcher at approximately 6:15 p.m. on 4/4/68 immediately following an apparent gunshot wound of the right side of the face and neck.

"At the time of the patient's admission to the Emergency room Dr. Ted Galyon was in attendance in the Emergency room talking to the nurse about an out-patient who had just left the Emergency room. He went directly into Room #1, where the patient was, with Mrs. Steinkirch, Emergency room nurse and finding the patient totally unconscious flat on his back in the supine position with his head turned slightly to the left side. There was a large gaping wound in the root of the neck on the right side which was not actively bleeding at the time of his initial arrival. There was much blood on his clothes, neck and shoulder. His head was partially covered with a towel over the area of the wound.

"Dr. Galyon immediately secured a stethoscope, detected a palpable heart beat and radial pulse and started a cutdown over the left antecubital vein which was done immediately for fluids. These were started while blood was ordered from the Laboratory for resuscitation. A second cutdown was started in the ankle in the saphenous vein by Dr. John Reisser for blood which was infused under pressure. The surgical resident, Dr. Rufus Brown came in at 6:18 p.m. and

71

On 4/19/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # 44-1987

by SA HOWARD D. TETEN / jms Date dictated 4/19/68

because of the massive defect in the wound and no respiration a tracheotomy was started. Dr. Barrasso came in at 6:22 p.m. and completed the tracheotomy and a cuffed endotracheal tube was inserted. Assisted respiration was then carried out on this patient. Following the re-establishment of an airway on this patient, the heart was again auscultated and very little tone could be heard. An EKG was immediately ordered by Dr. Galyon and Dr. Barrasso and the strip showed very poor to no function. Intracardiac Adrenalin was immediately injected and closed chest cardiac massage begun.

"In the meantime, exploration of the neck was carried out by Drs. Barrasso and Galyon who found that the jugular vein on the right was severed. A large artery, which was felt to be probably subclavian, was shredded and sticking up into the wound with very little bleeding at this time. In addition, there was much bubbling and a portion of the right apex of the lung was bulging through the wound.

"On further exploration a defect in the vertebral bodies of C7 to T2 was present with complete loss of spinal cord substance. Dr. Fred Gioia was then called to confirm this diagnosis and attempts to secure closure of the chest cavity by packing and clamping of the vessels was done. A right closed thoracotomy tube was inserted in an attempt to drain the blood from the right chest and re-expand the lung. Immediately on insertion of the tube 1000 cc. of blood was obtained from the right chest cavity. At the time Dr. Gioia confirmed the diagnosis of loss of spinal cord substance. This patient's pupils were massively dilated with no reaction.

"Dr. Joe Wilhite, a chest surgeon, was also called in attendance and consultation. Dr. Julian Fleming came to the Emergency room at our request and an EKG strip was done which showed no function. The cardiac massage was continued with all resuscitative efforts being continued for approximately 50 minutes, during which time we had had no response of any kind of vital signs and patient was pronounced dead at 7:05 p.m. by Dr. Barrasso.

"Post mortem X-rays of cervical area were done.

"Final presumptive diagnosis:

Gunshot wound of right side of face and neck with compound fracture rt. mandible, severance of right jugular vein and probable severance right subclavian artery, defect right pleural apex with hemopneumothorax, defect in C7 - T2 vertebral bodies on right with loss of spinal cord substance."

These records are confidential and are available only by a subpoena duces tecum. Should it be necessary to utilize this information in Federal Court, the subpoena should be directed to J. LUTON, Assistant Administrator, St. Joseph Hospital, Memphis, Tennessee.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 19, 1968

Dr. JERRY T. FRANCISCO, Shelby County Medical Examiner, Room 529, 858 Madison Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, furnished four copies each of five color photographs which show the upper torso of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. Dr. FRANCISCO stated that he personally took these photographs on the night of April 4, 1968, during a postmortem examination of Dr. KING. The photographs are described as follows:

- 1) Close-up showing entry wound on right side of victim's face and neck.
- 2) Showing right side of victim's head and neck and relative position of entry wound.
- 3) Showing entry wound path.
- 4) Showing missile after removal from victim.
- 5) Showing victim's back and point at which missile came to rest.

74

On 4/18/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987
by SA HOWARD D. TETEN:LF Date dictated 4/19/68

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ME 44-1987

ALABAMA DRIVER'S LICENSE
AND AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATION
FOR ERIC STARVO GALT

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/14/681

Mrs. CONNIE REDDOCH, Supervisor, Motor Vehicle Registration, State of Alabama, Montgomery, Alabama, made available documents which reflect the following information:

Mrs. REDDOCH made available the 1967 transfer registration 1A-88354 which was issued December 15, 1966 to WILLIAM D. PAISLEY, 701 South 48th Street, Birmingham, Alabama, for a 1966 Ford Mustang, VIN 6T07C190647.

This registration was transferred August 30, 1967 to ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama. The transfer form bears signature of GALT.

1968 license 1-38993 was issued October 2, 1967 to ERIC S. GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, South, Birmingham, Alabama for a 1966 Ford Mustang, 2 door, VIN 6T07C190647. Tag receipt bears signature of registrant.

Photographs were made of the originals of the above described documents.

In event the originals of the above described documents are necessary in a court of law, a subpoena duces tecum should be directed to Mr. HARVEY RABREN, Commissioner of Revenue, Department of Revenue, State of Alabama, Montgomery, Alabama.

76

On 4/9/68 at Montgomery, Alabama File # MO 157-2627

by SA G. ROBERT MARTZ
SA CARMELLO GRAFFAGNINI CRM:ljr Date dictated 4/10/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/14/68

Mrs. GERTRUDE KING, Supervisor, Driver's License Division, Department of Public Safety, State of Alabama, Montgomery, Alabama, made available document which reflected the following information:

License 2648947 was issued to ERIC STARVO GALT, 2608 Highland Avenue, South, Birmingham, Alabama, on September 6, 1967. He is described as a white male, born July 20, 1931, 5'11", 175 lbs., blue eyes and brown hair. His application lists his occupation as "Merchant Marine - unemployed".

File indicates that he did not surrender an out of state license, and was required to take driving test. He took the driving test in a 1966 Mustang bearing 1967 Alabama license 1A-88354.

His file also indicates that a duplicate license was issued to him on March 1, 1968 and was mailed to him at above address. The duplicate license has not been returned, and if it had been returned it would be retained in the file. The application for duplicate license was destroyed after duplicate license was mailed.

No violations are recorded against this individual.

Photographs were made of the original of the above described document.

In event the original of the above described document is necessary in a court of law, a subpoena duces tecum should be directed to Major BANGHEAD BATES, Director of Driver's License Division, Department of Public Safety, State of Alabama, Montgomery, Alabama.

77

On 4/9/68 at Montgomery, Alabama File # MO 157-2627

by SA G. ROBERT MARTZ GRM:ljr Date dictated 4/10/68
SA CARMELO GRAFFAGNINI

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ME 44-1987

INFORMATION CONCERNING
CONTINENTAL DANCE STUDIO,
NEW ORLEANS, LOUISIANA,
FOR THE PERIOD
JANUARY 1964 - AUGUST 1965

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/20/68

1

CHARLIE HARTZELL, Manager, Dance Club International, 3355 Poplar Avenue, Memphis, furnished the following information:

He stated that he managed the Continental Dance Studio, New Orleans, Louisiana, owned by MARLIN MEYERS, from January, 1964, through August, 1965. He advised that he knew all students who attended Continental Dance Studio during his tenure, and stated he did not recall anyone by the name of ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, or JOHN WILLARD attending his school at New Orleans.

He advised that his job was to collect weekly payments of students enrolled in dance courses, and advised he felt sure that if GALT did attend any classes at New Orleans, he would certainly recall his name.

He stated that MARLIN MEYERS had numerous photos of students taken at each weekly function and if GALT did attend the studio, MEYERS would most likely have a picture of GALT at the dance studio in New Orleans.

HARTZELL advised that Continental Dance Studio carried its own notes and did not discount or sell the papers to another agency. In view of this he stated if GALT did attend dance lessons at New Orleans, MEYERS should have a copy of his contract.

HARTZELL stated that the following individuals were dance instructors at the Continental Dance Studio during his tenure there:

FRANK DE SIMONE,
1242 Elysian Fields,
New Orleans, Louisiana;

CORBET DUKON
Address Unknown;

On 4/17/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # ME 44-1987
by SA ANDREW SLOAN and
SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK RF/bbs Date dictated 4/20/68

ME 44-1987

2

HARRY DUNN,
2300 NW 93rd Terrace,
Miami, Florida;

ARTHUR WOLFSON,
Chicago, Illinois;

BILL LANDPHEIRE
Address Unknown;

BOB STRICKLAND,
Sarasota, Florida;

LUELLA LUTZ, Financial Backer,
119 S. Clayborn,
New Orleans, Louisiana;

JACKIE COURVILLE,
2601 Corondolet
New Orleans, Louisiana.

A photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT was displayed to HARTZELL and he stated that he did not recognize this photo as being identical with any of his students who attended Continental Dance Studios, New Orleans, during his tenure there.

HARTZELL provided a list of students at his dance studio in New Orleans from January, 1965, through August, 1965:

FRED PUTFARK
VICTOR BETZ
Mr. CORMIER
Mrs. GERTEIS
CAROL ROBBINS
Mr. GENTILLY
Mrs. GENTILLY
Mr. QUELLETTE
DAVID NUMA
Mr. DE BORE
Mrs. DE BORE

Mr. ESTEP
Mrs. ESTEP
ELIZABETH BARTH
Mrs. COBURN
Mrs. LURIA
Mrs. WEIL
Mrs. WALLACE
Mr. YOUNG
Mr. HARDOCK
Mr. BERINGER
Mr. BENSON
Mr. REUTHER
Mrs. LARIOS
Mr. TILLOTSON
Mr. PSILOS
Mr. SLATTERY
Mr. YAGER
Mr. WALL
Mr. FISHER
Mr. WIGGINS
WALTER MOELLER
A Man
Miss IVEY
Mrs. COUCH
Mrs. DIPAOLO
Mrs. LAWRENCE
Mrs. FAUBION
Mr. STRICKLAND
Mrs. THOMES
Mr. JACOBS
A Man
Mrs. HERNANDEZ
Mrs. GRIEBS
Mrs. JO DAUZAT
Mr. HURRY
WARREN JACOB
Mr. MURPHY
Mrs. BONER
Mrs. LIVAUDAIS
Mrs. SHOWMACHER
NELLIE DEAN
NINA ROLLAND
LOUIS HUFF
HERRING ELVA
JEANETTE HEARTY
MARIE GUEDRY

ME 44-1987

4

JOE MAESE
Mrs. M. BOURGEOIS
Mr. MONTALBAN
Mrs. MONTALBAN
E. D. CARAWAY
Mr. MUNDI
Mrs. MUNDI
FLO DAVIS
WARREN MOORE
Mrs. MARTINO
Mr. CUNNINGHAM
ROMONA CLAXTON
Mr. LOPER
A Man
MERCEDES RUSSELL
J. L. KEPPLER
A Man
Mr. BENNETT
CAROL RIVIERE
Mrs. O'ROURKE
Miss JOSEPH
Mr. HOFFMAN
Mr. BARQUERO
Mr. MC KENZIE
Mr. NUNGUESSER
Mrs. ANDRY
Mr. WILLIAMS
Mrs. FASSBINDER
Mrs. PENEGUY
Mr. CURRIER
Mr. SHILHAMER
Mr. BONNER
Mr. BRYAN
Mr. LAMBERT
Mr. PARKER
LOLITA NELSON
PETER MADERE
Mr. GERBER

ME 44-1987

4

JOE MAESE
Mrs. M. BOURGEOIS
Mr. MONTALBAN
Mrs. MONTALBAN
E. D. CARAWAY
Mr. MUNDI
Mrs. MUNDI
FLO DAVIS
WARREN MOORE
Mrs. MARTINO
Mr. CUNNINGHAM
ROMONA CLAXTON
Mr. LOPER
A Man
MERCEDES RUSSELL
J. L. KEPPLER
A Man
Mr. BENNETT
CAROL RIVIERE
Mrs. O'ROURKE
Miss JOSEPH
Mr. HOFFMAN
Mr. BARQUERO
Mr. MC KENZIE
Mr. NUNGUESSER
Mrs. ANDRY
Mr. WILLIAMS
Mrs. FASSBINDER
Mrs. PENEGUY
Mr. CURRIER
Mr. SHELHAMER
Mr. BONNER
Mr. BRYAN
Mr. LAMBERT
Mr. PARKER
LOLITA NELSON
PETER MADERE
Mr. GERBER

ME 44-1987

PHYSICAL EVIDENCE AND LATENT FINGERPRINTS



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.**

To: **FBI, Memphis**

Re: **MURKIN**

Date:

FBI File No.

Lab. No.

April 17, 1968

44-38861

PC-A5498 BX IZ KS GH

D-560096 JK

E-565 JZ

Specimens received

**For a listing of the evidence
see attached pages.**

84

DELIVERED APRIL 5, 1968 BY SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK, MEMPHIS OFFICE

Submitted by Airtel #1 as recovered by Inspector N. E. Zachary,
Memphis Police Department in vicinity of 424 South Main Street:

- Q1 Rifle box for Browning .243 Winchester caliber rifle,
Serial Number 4744Z5
- Q2 .30-06 Springfield caliber Remington "Gamemaster" slide-
action rifle, Model 760, Serial Number 461476, with Redfield
telescope sight, Serial Number A17350, with clip
- Q3 .30-06 Springfield caliber Remington-Peters cartridge case
- Q4-Q12 Nine .30-06 Springfield caliber cartridges (five Remington-
Peters and four R-A-55) in Peters cartridge box, Index
Number 3033
- Q13 Large green and brown cloth

Submitted by Airtel #2 as recovered by Inspector N. E. Zachary,
Memphis Police Department in vicinity of 424 South Main Street:

- Q14 "Banner" binocular (Bushnell) 7 by 35, Serial Number DQ408664
(allegedly in zipper bag when recovered)
- Q15 Zipper bag

ITEMS FROM OUTSIDE COMPARTMENT OF ZIPPER BAG

- Q16 Duck-bill pliers and tack hammer marked "MAGNETIC"
- Q17 Box of "BAND-AID sheer strips"
- Q18 Georgia-Alabama Standard Oil map
- Q19 "Commercial Appeal" Memphis newspaper, first
section only, issue of April 4, 1968
- Q20 Standard Oil map of the United States

ITEM INSIDE ZIPPER BAG, IN POCKET

Q21 Partial roll of toilet paper

ITEMS LOOSE INSIDE ZIPPER BAG

Q22 Binocular case with instruction booklet, lens cloth and guarantee card

Q23 Binocular box, cardboard

Q24 "Gillette" travel kit purchased at Oliver Rexall Store, Whitehaven, price \$1.89, with razor, lotion shaving cream, deodorant, hair cream and razor blade in dispenser

Q25 Gray paper sack bearing marking "YORK ARMS CO." with receipt dated 4-4-68 in amount of \$41.55

Q26 White and yellow towel

Q27 White handkerchief

Q28 Tube of "Colgace" toothpaste

Q29-Q30 Pair of black socks

Q31 Seven-ounce can of "RIGHT GUARD" deodorant

Q32 Channel Master radio

Q33 Bottle of "BUFFERIN"

Q34 Elastic belt

Q35 Tube of "BRYLCREEM"

Q36 Bottle of "ONE A DAY" vitamins

Q37 Small bar of "Cashmere Bouquet" soap

Q38 Hairbrush

Q39 Bar of "dial" soap, bath size

Q40 Tube of "Head & Shoulders" shampoo

ITEMS LOOSE INSIDE ZIPPER BAG (continued)

- Q41 Can of brown "KIWI" boot polish
- Q42 Can of "PALMOLIVE RAPID-SHAVE" shaving cream
- Q43 Gray-brown button (in sack with beer)
- Q44 Black button (in sack with beer)
- Q45 Toothbrush, "Pepsodent"
- Q46 Safety razor, without blade
- Q47 Plastic bottle of "MENNEN afta" lotion
- Q48 Small bar of "Cameo" toilet soap
- Q49 Small bar of "Cashmere Bouquet" soap, bearing
advertisement of Friendship Inns
- Q50-Q51 Two bobby pins
- Q52-Q53 Two cans of "Schlitz" beer, pull tab
- Q54 Plastic "six-pack" carrying device
- Q55 Brown paper sack (containing beer)
- Q56 Small brown paper sack, empty
- Q57 Key
- Q58 Toothpick
- Q59 Metal ring
- Q60-Q61 Two coat hangers
- Q62 Two links from "ADJUST-O" watchband
- Q63 Gray-brown button

Submitted by Airtel #3:

- Q64 Bullet from body
- Q65 Twenty dollar Federal Reserve Note, Series 1963A,
Serial Number F14002844A
- Q66 Twenty dollar Federal Reserve Note, Series 1963A,
Serial Number H16164663A
- Q67 Twenty dollar Federal Reserve Note, Series 1963,
Serial Number F06445143A
- Q68 Fingerprint card for Bessie Ruth Brewer

Page 4
C-A5498 BX

Results of examination:

FIREARMS - TOOLMARKS EXAMINATIONS

The serial number on the black rifle box, Q1, was determined to be 4744Z5. This box originally contained a .243 Winchester caliber Browning rifle.

The Q3 cartridge case was identified as having been fired in the Q2 rifle. The only marks found on Q3, other than marks made during manufacturing procedures, were one extractor mark which was identified as having been made by the extractor of the Q2 rifle and the marks left on Q3 by the Q2 rifle when Q3 was fired.

The bullet, Q64, from the victim, is a .30 caliber metal-jacketed "soft-point" sporting type bullet of Remington-Peters manufacture which was fired from a barrel rifled with six lands and grooves, right twist. Based on the physical characteristics of the general rifling impressions, the Q64 bullet could have been fired from the Remington rifle, Q2. The Q64 bullet has been distorted due to mutilation and insufficient marks of value for identification remain on this bullet. Therefore, it was not possible to determine whether or not Q64 was fired from the Q2 rifle.

The Q64 bullet is identical in all remaining observable physical characteristics to the 150 grain bullets in the five loaded .30-06 Springfield caliber Remington-Peters cartridges, Q4 through Q8.

Based on physical characteristics, specimen Q64 and the cartridge case, Q3, could originally have been portions of the same cartridge, which would be the same as the Q4 through Q8 cartridges. No marks are present on Q64 of the type which would permit determining positively whether or not the Q64 bullet was originally a portion of the cartridge represented by Q3.

The five cartridges, Q4 through Q8, conform in description to the type of cartridges packaged by the manufacturer in the Peters cartridge box in which they were submitted. Because of the manner in which cartridges are boxed at the factory, it is not possible to determine whether or not the cartridge represented by Q3 or any of the

Q4 through Q8 cartridges were packaged in the same box by the manufacturer.

The Peters cartridge box in which Q4 through Q8 were submitted also contained four U. S. Military cartridges, containing full-metal jacketed 150 grain bullets, different from Q64. The manufacturer's headstamp on these cartridges is "R A 55." The "R A" indicates that these cartridges were manufactured by Remington Arms Company, Incorporated, Bridgeport, Connecticut. Cartridges bearing "55" are those normally manufactured in 1955.

Examination of the four cartridges, Q9 through Q12, revealed no marks indicating these cartridges had ever been loaded into a weapon. The only marks on these cartridges appear to be marks produced by the manufacturer's machines and marks of the type produced by metal-link ammunition belts of the type used with machine guns. The link belt marks on Q9 through Q12 are suitable for comparison with the metal links from which the cartridges were withdrawn. In metal-link belts, each cartridge serves to hold adjacent links together. As each cartridge is withdrawn, a link (which is expendable) separates from the rest of the belt.

No aluminum, screen-type scratches, paint, wood or other foreign material was found on the muzzle or side of the barrel of the Q2 rifle.

No record was located in the National Stolen Property Index or the National Crime Information Center for a Browning rifle, Serial Number 4744Z5, as originally contained in Q1; for the Q2 rifle; for a Redfield 2X-7X variable telescope sight, Serial Number A17350 (which is mounted on Q2), or for the Bushnell binocular, Q14, Serial Number DQ408664.

No serial number which would facilitate tracing was found on the Weaver telescope sight mount and base on Q2. The screws used to secure the sight tube to the mount were "finger" tight. No tool was required to loosen them and no toolmarks of value for comparison are present.

Page 6
PC-A5498 BX

(continued on next page)

The magnification setting of the telescope sight tube was "6 $\frac{1}{2}$ x" when the Q2 rifle was received. Therefore, objects viewed would be enlarged to approximately 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ times normal size.

HAIR EXAMINATION

Numerous brown head hairs of Caucasian origin were found on or in specimens Q13, Q15, Q26, Q29, Q30 and Q38. Numerous dark brown to black beard fragments of Caucasian origin were removed from the Q24 and Q46 razors. All of these hairs and beard fragments have been mounted on glass slides for comparisons with any suspects you may develop.

No Negroid hairs were found on or in any of the above-listed evidence.

FIBER EXAMINATION

Brown cotton fibers, green cotton fibers and lustrous green viscose fibers like those composing the Q13 bedspread were found on the Q2 rifle and in the debris removed from the Q1 box. These fibers could have originated from Q13.

MISCELLANEOUS EXAMINATIONS

Specimen Q1 is a black cardboard box measuring 6 $\frac{3}{4}$ " x 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ " x 44 $\frac{1}{4}$ ". Printing on the box indicates it contained a Browning Mauser rifle, "SAFARI" grade. The number "130712" is printed on the end of the box and "4744Z5" has been hand printed on the same end.

Specimen Q13 is a large green and brown bedspread. It is composed of approximately 50% brown cotton, 25% green cotton and 25% lustrous green viscose fibers. It measures 106 $\frac{1}{4}$ " x 85 $\frac{1}{4}$ " and has a herringbone design. The ribs of the herringbone have a 40° angle and each rib is 3/4" in width. No visible, invisible or manufacturer's markings were found on Q13. It exhibits above-average wear and is of the type sometimes found in hotels or motels.

The Bushnell Q14 binocular was manufactured in Japan. Bushnell binoculars are distributed by Bushnell and Company, Incorporated, 639 Bushnell Building, Pasadena, California. Specimen Q14 bears number "DQ408664." A paper

Page 7
PC-A5498 BX

(continued on next page)

label on the center post indicates Q14 was passed by the "Japan Telescopes Inspection Institute."

The Q15 zipper bag measures 15" x 20" x 5 $\frac{1}{4}$ " and is an inexpensive bag of Japanese manufacture. The bag is a "Tel-Star" model that retails for about six to seven dollars. This model bag comes in six different sizes, 16", 18", 20", 22", 24" and 26". The importer or jobber for "Tel-Star" luggage is the United Products Corporation, 2500 Genessee, Kansas City, Missouri 64141.

The Q16 duck-bill pliers are 7 $\frac{3}{4}$ " in length and the jaws are 1 $\frac{3}{8}$ " long. A price tag on one handle bears "ROMPAGE HARDWARE \$1.98." Just above the word "Rompage" are three characters printed in blue. Two characters on the left appear to be "10." The single character on the right appears to be "0." No other data was noted on the label.

Also in Q16 is a small tack hammer with a metal head 4 $\frac{1}{8}$ " long. Imprinted on the wooden handle is "MAGNETIC" The handle is painted white with a blue band around the end of the handle. The U. S. Patent Office has no record of the trademark on this hammer.

The Q17 metal "BAND-AID" box contains twenty-one regular adhesive bandages and ten "JUNIOR" adhesive bandages. The number of bandages in the box agrees with the count printed on the box. A small round price tag on top of Q17 has the numerals ".57."

Nothing of significance was noted concerning the partial role of toilet paper, Q21.

Specimen Q22 is a black binocular case for a Bushnell binocular. Inside Q22 was found an instruction booklet, lens cloth and guarantee card.

Specimen Q23 is a cardboard box for a Bushnell binocular. A price tag on Q23 has the numerals "11-67" and "\$39.95" printed on it. Also on this box was hand printed:

"3995
160
4155"

Specimen Q24 is a travel kit manufactured by Gillette. It is clear plastic and contains the following:

- 1 - Safety razor with double-edge blade
- 2 - Package of "Gillette" stainless steel double-edge blades
- 3 - 1.3 ounce can of "foamy" shaving cream
- 4 - 1 ounce can "RIGHT GUARD" deodorant
- 5 - $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce bottle "Sun Up" after shave lotion
- 6 - $\frac{3}{8}$ ounce tube "HEADS UP" hair dressing

A price tag on the top of Q24 has the following printed on it: "OLIVER REXALL," "WHITEHAVEN PHONE 397-2301," "\$1.89," "E" and "00."

The Q25 gray paper bag has the name and address of the "YORK ARMS CO." of Memphis printed on it. Inside this bag was found a cash register receipt dated "APR 4" in the amount of "\$041.55 CBH." The numerals "083" also appear on the receipt.

The Q26 white and yellow checkered towel is 26" x 15". No labels or visible or invisible markings were found on Q26.

Specimen Q27 is an inexpensive common man's handkerchief measuring $14\frac{1}{2}$ " x 15". No labels or markings were found on Q27.

Specimen Q28 is a partial tube of "Colgate" toothpaste, 3.25 ounce size.

The Q29 and Q30 socks are a pair of black knee length synthetic stretch socks. No markings or labels were found on these socks.

The Q31 can of "RIGHT GUARD" deodorant is a 7 ounce size. "M313" is printed in black on the bottom of the can.

Specimen Q32 is a Channel Master radio receiver. A label affixed to the inside of the rear cover indicates that the receiver is Model 6502, 6 transistor, super heterodyne, with a frequency range of 535-1605 Kc/s and operates

on a 9-volt battery supply. The words "CHANNEL MASTER CORP." are imprinted on the bottom of the label. The words "HONG KONG" are molded on the outside of the light-colored plastic cover. However, some components are marked "JAPAN." A 9-volt Eveready battery, #216, was connected inside the case. The front of the case is made of polished or plated metal and is stamped "6 TRANSISTOR CHANNEL MASTER." The remainder of the case, about one-third down each side, is maroon-colored plastic. The case measures approximately 4" x 2 3/8" x 1 1/4".

Radio products bearing the Channel Master name are very common.

When received, the dial indicated approximately "10" and was turned to approximately 1020 Kc/s. The tuning range of the receiver is approximately 530 Kc/s to 1660 Kc/s, which covers the regular broadcast band. The receiver was operational when received.

The Q32 radio bears scratches on one end interpreted to read "00416."

The Q33 plastic "BUFFERIN" bottle is a 60-tablet size and contained 10 whole tablets and 2 partial tablets, all bearing the letter "B."

Specimen Q34 is a man's elastic belt bearing Greek or Roman heads on the buckle. The belt is 3/4" wide and 31" long, unstretched. The waist measurement of the wearer could not be determined in view of the type of belt.

Specimen Q35 is a partial tube of "BRYLCREEM" hair dressing, 3 ounce size.

Specimen Q36 is a bottle of "ONE A DAY" vitamins, 25-tablet size. There were 21 tablets in the bottle.

Specimen Q37 is a small hotel-size bar of "Cashmere Bouquet" soap.

Specimen Q38 is a clear plastic hairbrush with white synthetic bristles. "U.S.A." has been molded to the underside of the handle.

The Q39 bar of "dial" soap is a 4 7/8 ounce size and has the price "2/45¢" stamped on one end in blue ink.

The Q40 tube of "Head & Shoulders" shampoo is a 2.7 ounce size. It bears a price label with "LIGGETT-REXALL 1678 1.10" on the side.

The Q41 can of "KIWI" brown boot polish is a 1 1/8 ounce size. Some of the polish has been used.

A price tag on the Q42 can of "PALMOLIVE RAPID-SHAVE" menthol shaving cream bears "LIGGETT-REXALL 3478 .79."

Nothing of significance was noted about the Q43, Q44 or Q63 buttons; however, they are suitable for comparison with other buttons present on suspect garments.

Specimen Q45 is a used red-handled "Pepsodent" brand toothbrush. "U.S.A. M K5" is present on the underside of Q45.

The Q46 razor is a "Gillette" make and has no blade in it.

A price tag is on the Q47 3.75 ounce bottle of "MENNEN afta" after shave and skin conditioner lotion bearing "\$1.00 PLS TAX." "202x" is printed in blue ink on the bottom of Q47.

Specimen Q48 is a small bar of "Cameo" soap manufactured by the Brunswick Soap Company, Brooklyn, New York.

Specimen Q49 is a small bar of "Cashmere Bouquet" soap, a product of Colgate-Palmolive Company, New York. A shield with "Member Friendship Inns" has been printed on the wrapper.

The Q50 and Q51 bobby pins are light brown colored, common pins.

Specimens Q52 and Q53 are full cans of Schlitz beer. "MISSISSIPPI TAX PAID 4 CENTS" has been printed in black on the bottom of each can. "03" has been stamped into the
158"

metal in the bottom of each can. Both cans are alike. These cans were found attached to the Q54 carrying device in the Q55 paper bag.

Nothing of apparent significance was noted about the 4" x 6" brown paper Q56 bag.

The Q57 key fits the lock on the Q15 zipper bag and probably belongs to this bag.

Specimen Q58 is a common, round, used toothpick.

The metal split ring, Q59, has overlapping ends. It appears to be the type of ring that new keys are attached to.

Nothing of significance was noted about the Q60 and Q61 coat hangers.

Specimen Q62 is a two-link portion of an "ADJUST-O" silver-colored watchband. The links may be compared with the watchband should same be recovered.

SOIL EXAMINATION

Fine smears and deposits of brown silty soil having the appearance of being deposited while wet were found on Q13. The soil in these smears and deposits is suitable for comparison purposes. The specific origin of the soil cannot be determined by a Laboratory examination.

DOCUMENT EXAMINATION

Specimens Q18, Q19, Q20, Q23, Q25, Q55 and Q56 were examined for writings and pertinent indented impressions, but nothing of significance was noted.

The Q55 bag is imprinted "HOMESTEAD" "STUBBY." Information available in the Laboratory shows that the "HOMESTEAD" brand name is registered to the Graham Paper Company, 1014 Spruce Street, St. Louis, Missouri 63102, while "STUBBY" refers to the type of bag.

REPORT
of theFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

To: FBI, Memphis

Date: April 11, 1968

FBI File No. 44-38861

Re: MURKIN

Lab. No. PC-A5505 BX IZ

Specimens ~~received~~ personally delivered on 4-8-68 by SA Robert Fitzpatrick,
Memphis

Q69 Undershorts

Q70 T shirt

Q71 Board from windowsill in bathroom

Results of examination:

The undershorts and the T shirt each bears a laundry tag with what appears to be the characters "02B-6." Only a portion of the first character is present on each tag. The Laboratory does not maintain a file of visible laundry marks. No invisible laundry marks were found on the undershorts or T shirt.

The pair of undershorts is small in size while the T shirt is large.

The pair of undershorts does not have a brand label. The T shirt has a "JOCKEY" brand label.

The T shirt label is held flat with a folded piece of 3/4" wide cellophane tape. The piece of tape is about 1" long. One end has been cut, and the other end has been torn.

The crotch seams of the undershorts have been repaired in two places with brown thread. The repaired areas are hand stitched.

No hairs were found on the undershorts or T shirt.

The Q71 board bears a recent dent which could have been produced by a light blow from the muzzle of a weapon such as the Remington rifle, Serial Number 461476

previously submitted in this case. The dent contains microscopic marks of the type which could be produced by the side of the barrel at the muzzle but insufficient marks for identification were left on the board due to the physical nature of the wood. The microscopic marks present are different from the type which would be produced by the duck-bill pliers or tack hammer which were in the blue zipper bag previously submitted. No other marks were found on the board.

No gunpowder or gunpowder residues were found on the Q71 board.

No wood, paint, aluminum or other foreign material was found on the rifle barrel nor were any significant marks found on the rifle barrel.

Page 2
PC-A5505 BX



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.**

To: FBI, Memphis

Re: MURKIN

Date: April 18, 1968

FBI File No. 44-38861

Lab. No. PC-A5530

BX GH JV

Specimens received

4/8/68

CLOTHING FROM MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

Q76 Shirt
Q77 Necktie
Q78 Suit coat
Q79 Trousers
Q80-Q81 Pair of socks
Q82 Undershorts
Q83 Undershirt
Q84-Q85 Pair of shoes

Results of examination:

There is a large hole in the right front portion of the collar of the Q76 shirt. The Q77 necktie has been forcibly torn apart in the right front neck portion also. The object or objects causing the damage were larger than a bullet of .30 caliber size and irregular in shape as all of the yarns were broken, not cut. One or more segments of bone could not be eliminated as the cause of the damage.

The right lapel of the Q78 coat has three damaged areas on the surface of the fabric. These areas have been torn by some object or objects, but the damage does not extend through the lapel. The torn areas vary from $\frac{1}{4}$ " to 1" in length and the condition of the yarn indicates the object or objects struck the coat from above and probably glanced off the coat.

Due to the sizes and ragged edges of the damaged areas of the Q76 shirt, Q77 necktie and Q78 suit coat, it was not possible to recognize any bullet holes or to

Page 1

(continued on next page)

determine from visual examination whether or not a bullet or any bullet fragments had passed through or struck these items.

No bullet holes were found in Q79 through Q85.

The edges of the hole torn in the Q76 shirt collar, the edges of the three tears on the collar of the Q78 suit coat and the material near the ends of the Q77 necktie were contaminated with traces of lead which could have come from a bullet or from bullet fragments. The lead contamination of these items could not be associated with a particular bullet or lead source.

Page 2
PC-A5530 BX GH JV

100



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.**

To: **FBI, Memphis**

Date: **April 22, 1968**

FBI File No. **44-38861**

Re: **MURKIN**

Lab. No. **PC-A5530 BX GH JV IS**

~~Specimens received~~

Results of examination:

Group "O" human blood was identified on Q76, Q77, Q78, Q79 and Q83.

Human blood too limited in amount for grouping purposes was found on Q82, Q84 and Q85.

Preliminary chemical tests for blood indicated the possible presence of blood on Q80 and Q81. However, there was an insufficient amount of material on these items to permit the necessary additional chemical tests to definitely establish the presence of blood.



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.

To: FBI, Memphis

Re: MURKIN

Date: April 19, 1968

FBI File No. 44-38861

Lab. No. PC-A5627 IZ KS
D-560623 JK
PC-A5655 KS IS KZ
PC-A5656 KS
PC-A5693 KS
PC-A5695 KS

Specimens received 4/12/68 when personally delivered by
SA A. F. Miller, from FBI, Atlanta (PC-A5627 IZ KS; D-560623 JK)

ITEMS FROM 1966 FORD MUSTANG:

- Q89 Floor mat from right front floor
- Q90 Floor mat from rear floor
- Q91 Floor mat from left front floor
- Q92 Floor mat from trunk
- Q93 Air filter cartridge
- Q94 Wheel jack from trunk
- Q95 Dark blue short-sleeved sweat shirt
- Q96 One rubber sandal, size 7-8 $\frac{1}{2}$
- Q97 One white fitted sheet
- Q98 One black and white shirt jacket
- Q99 One pillowcase
- Q100 One fitted sheet with yellow thread
- Q101 One black sport shirt
- Q102 One pair of size 34 walking shorts
- Q103 Rug from trunk
- Q104 Pillow from trunk
- Q105 Styrofoam container from trunk
- Q106 One pair of men's brown socks from trunk
- Q107 One hunting knife and sheath
- Q108 Spare tire mounting from trunk
- Q109 Lug wrench from trunk
- Q110 Blue-handled screwdriver from trunk
- Q111 Used windshield wiper blade from trunk
- Q112 One Personna razor blade
- Q113 Soil sample from spare wheel and tire
- Q114 Vacuum sweepings from front passenger side floor
- Q115 Vacuum sweepings from left front floor
- Q116 Vacuum sweepings from rear floor
- Q117 Vacuum sweepings from trunk

Specimens received 4/12/68 when personally delivered by
SA Jack B. Simpson, FBI, Atlanta (PC-A5655 KS IS KZ)

Q143 Soil from right fender well
Q144 Soil from right front wheel
Q145 Soil from right rear wheel
Q146 Soil from right rear fender well
Q147 Debris from lower part of left fender
Q148 Soil from left front wheel
Q149 Soil from left rear wheel
Q150 Scraping from front left tire tread
Q151 Soil from underneath body in front of differential
Q152 Soil from differential
Q153 Soil from front of exhaust pipe
Q154 Soil from underneath body in front section
Q155 Soil from left fender well
Q156 Soil from left rear fender well
Q157 Scrapings from left rear tire tread
Q158 Scrapings from tread of right rear tire
Q159 Scrapings from under glove compartment
Q160 Scrapings from tire tread, right front tire
Q161 Scrapings from front part of engine
Q162 Water from windshield washer bag
Q163 Spare tire and wheel from trunk

Specimen received 4/13/68 from FBI, Memphis (PC-A5656 KS)

K30 Soil from approximately twenty feet from site where gun
and bedspread abandoned

Specimens received 4/16/68 from FBI, Memphis (PC-A5693 KS)

K44 - K49 Soil from parking lot and area between curb and
sidewalk near Unit 34 of Rebel Motel

Specimens received 4/16/68 from FBI, Memphis (PC-A5695 KS)

K50 - K59 Soil samples from area in rear of 418 and 422¹/₂ South
Main Street

Page 2
PC-A5627 IZ

(continued on next page)

Results of examination:

The previously submitted bedspread, specimen Q13, is composed of brown cotton fibers, green cotton fibers and green rayon fibers. Brown cotton fibers, green cotton fibers and green rayon fibers that could have come from the Q13 bedspread were found on Q95, Q97 through Q104 and Q106 and in the Q117 sweepings. No such fibers were found on Q89 through Q92 or in the Q114 through Q116 sweepings.

Caucasian head hairs like the hairs previously found on the Q13 bedspread, in the Q15 zipper bag, on the Q26 towel, on the Q29 and Q30 socks and on the Q38 hairbrush were found on Q95, Q97, Q99, Q100 and Q103. These hairs could have come from the same person. It is pointed out that hairs do not possess enough individual microscopic characteristics to be positively identified as originating from a particular person. Caucasian head hairs were also found in the Q114 through Q117 vacuum sweepings. Some of these hairs are like the Q13, Q15, Q26, Q29, Q30 and Q38 hairs and could have come from the same person. Some of the hairs from Q114 through Q117 are different from the Q13, Q15, Q26, Q29, Q30 and Q38 hairs and did not come from the same person. No hairs were found on Q89 through Q92, Q98, Q101, Q102, Q104 or Q106.

The Q89 through Q91 floor mats are composed of translucent red plastic. No brand names are indicated on the mats. The letters "HIS" are hand printed on the back of each mat, apparently with a felt tip marker. The significance of the letters is not known.

Specimen Q92 is a black and gray plaid rubber mat. No marks were found on Q92.

Specimens Q94, Q108 and Q109 are standard items furnished with Mustangs.

Specimen Q95 is a dark blue short-sleeved sweat shirt of medium size. No labels or laundry marks were found on Q95.

Specimen Q96 is a black and white rubber sandal for the left foot. A label on the bottom bears the following: "MEN'S - M SHOE SIZE 7-8½ JAPAN"

Specimen Q97 is a twin-bed size, fitted, white bed sheet. Specimen Q99 is a white pillowcase. A white laundry tape is present on Q97 and Q99. The following is printed in black on each tape: "2-OR-3" It was concluded that the marks on these tapes did not originate from the machine which prepared the laundry tapes on the Q69 shorts and the Q70 T shirt.

Specimen Q98 is a black and white shirt jacket. The following is present on the label of Q98:

" M RN19788 65% DACRON 35% COTTON
15-15 $\frac{1}{2}$ MONTICELLO SHIRT JACKET TAPERED"

Specimen Q100 is a twin-bed size, fitted, white bed sheet. The sheet is in two pieces. The two pieces are stitched together with yellow thread and white thread. Inquiry at a department store in Washington, D. C., developed the following information concerning Q100: It is a #3 grade irregular seamed sheet. Most such sheets even if manufactured in the United States are sold in other countries. If sold in this country, they are sold in low class "illegitimate stores." Such sheets do not bear the manufacturer's name.

Specimen Q101 is a black short-sleeved shirt. The following is present on the label of Q101:

"ARTURO ROSETTI CUSTOM TAILORED -L- 100% COTTON
MADE IN U.S.A. RN15722"

Specimen Q102 is a pair of olive green walking shorts. The following is present on the label of Q102:

"HONG KONG DIPLOMAT CUSTOM TAILORED 65% POLYESTER FIBRE
35% SUPER FINE COTTON WAIST 34"

Specimen Q103 is a light pink, looped pile cotton rug that measures 24" by 56 $\frac{1}{2}$ ". No labels were found on Q103.

Specimen Q104 is a feather pillow that measures about 19" by 24". The pillow has a specification label. The back of the label is stamped "9 1967."

Specimen Q105 is a container for a Polaroid camera, possibly a model 230. No label was found on Q105.

Specimen Q106 is a pair of men's stretch socks with no label.

Other than the laundry tapes on Q97 and Q99, no visible laundry marks were found on any of the cloth items listed above. No invisible laundry marks were found on any of these items.

No buttons are missing from any of the garments listed above.

The Q107 hunting knife has a blade that measures 3 9/16" in length. The blade is rusty. The words "GESCO JAPAN" are imprinted on one side of the blade and the number "45" is imprinted on the other side. The word "GESCO" is stamped on the sheath.

Specimen Q110 is a flat-tipped Stanley brand screwdriver.

Specimen Q111 is an "ANCO" brand windshield wiper blade. Part of the rubber has been torn off.

Specimen Q112 is a "Personna" double-edge razor blade. No hairs were found on Q112.

The K30 and K44 through K59 soils from Memphis are different from the soil found on the previously submitted Q13 bedspread in physical characteristics and composition. Therefore, the soil from the bedspread did not come from the sources of K30 and K44 through K59.

No soil similar to the soil from the bedspread was found in Q113, Q143 through Q158, Q160 and Q161 or on the Q163 tire and wheel. None of these soils from the car originated from the source of the soil on the bedspread.

Although nothing was noted which would aid in the determination of the original sources of specimens Q113, Q143 through Q146, Q148, Q149, Q151, Q152, Q154 and the soil from Q163, they are suitable for comparison purposes. Specimens Q147, Q150, Q153, Q155

through Q158, Q160 and Q161 are either too limited in amount or too mixed with miscellaneous debris to be of value for significant comparisons other than for elimination purposes.

The soils from the car were different from K30 and K44 through K59 in physical characteristics and composition and, therefore, did not come from the sources of K30 and K44 through K59.

No soil of value for significant comparison was found on Q89 through Q106 or in the vacuum sweepings, specimens Q114 through Q117. The mineral debris in Q114 through Q117 consists of typical car floor debris, a mixture of miscellaneous materials from numerous sources. No mineral debris of apparent significance was found in Q114 through Q117.

The scrapings from under the glove compartment, Q159, do not contain blood.

The Q162 liquid was identified as water. No traces of any alcohols such as used in windshield wash were identified in this specimen.



**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D. C.**

To: **FBI, Memphis**

Re: **MURKIN**

Date: **April 22, 1968**

FBI File No. **44-38861**

Lab. No. **PC-A5694 IZ**

Specimens received **4/16/68**

- Q204 Pillow
- Q205 Pillowcase
- Q206 Green sofa pillow
- Q207 Bed sheet
- Q208 Bed sheet
- Q209 Black leather strap, 11/32" wide
- Q210 Black leather strap, 5/8" wide
- Q211 Dried plant material
- Q212 Towel with white, blue, green and yellow stripes
- Q213 Red, white and blue plastic pin and portion of pin

Results of examination:

Brown cotton fibers, green cotton fibers and green rayon fibers that could have come from the Q13 bedspread were found on Q207 and Q208. None were found on Q204, Q205, Q206 or Q212.

Several Caucasian head hairs were found on the Q206 sofa pillow and on the Q208 sheet and numerous such hairs were found on the Q207 sheet. Some of these hairs are like the previously described hairs from the Q38 hairbrush and other items and could have come from the same person. It is pointed out that hairs do not possess enough individual microscopic characteristics to be positively identified as originating from a particular person. Most of the hairs from Q206, Q207 and Q208 are different from the previously described hairs from Q38 and other items and did not originate from the same person.

Page 1

(continued on next page)

The Q209 strap, which appears new, measures 37 $\frac{1}{2}$ " in length. This strap fits the strap guides on the Q14 binoculars and could be the strap for Q14. No strap is presently on Q14.

A short hand strap is presently on the Q22 binoculars case. The Q210 strap has the same appearance as the hand strap on Q22 except that it is longer. Specimen Q210 could be the shoulder strap for the Q22 case. The Q210 strap appears new and measures 37" in length.

No plant material similar to specimen Q211 was found in the previously submitted debris from the Mustang.

No marks to indicate source were found on Q213. The Q213 pin appears to be a patriotic emblem.

Your File No. 44-1987
FBI File No. 44-38861
Latent Case No. 91075

April 24, 1968

RE: JAMES EARL RAY, FBI #405942G

Latent fingerprint previously reported on the Remington model 760 rifle, serial #461476, Q2; the latent fingerprint on the telescopic sight, serial #A17350, on the rifle, Q2; latent fingerprint on the binoculars, Q14; the latent fingerprint on the newspaper, Q19; the latent fingerprint on the after shave lotion bottle, part of Q24; and the latent fingerprint on the Schlitz beer can, Q53, have all been identified with the fingerprints of James Earl Ray.

ME 44-1987

MISCELLANEOUS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/26/68

1

Mr. HARRY SERO, 295 North McNeil, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that he is former inmate No. 01903J at the Missouri State Penitentiary (MSP), Jefferson City, Missouri.

SERO said he first came to Memphis, Tennessee, on about January 13, 1962, at which time he was wanted in Missouri for having violated his parole from the MSP. Upon his arrival in Memphis he went to work as a house remodeler, later working in a Gulf service station at the corner of Jefferson and Lauderdale Streets. SERO took over management of this station in about April 1962 and operated it until November 21, 1962, at which time he left Memphis after having gotten into trouble with the local police for having written some bad checks. SERO said he first went from Memphis to Pennsylvania to visit relatives and continued to run until he finally settled in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and went to work in a Texaco service station.

On February 14, 1964, SERO was arrested in Tulsa, Oklahoma, and was returned to the MSP where he was put in "B" block. He remained there from sometime in February 1964 until about June 12, 1964, at which time SERO was turned over on rendition to the State of Tennessee.

During the approximately four months that SERO was in the MSP he became friendly with JAMES EARL RAY. SERO also was acquainted with another inmate, one RAYMOND CURTIS, who has recently talked to newspaper reporters concerning his association with RAY. SERO said he can recall making the statement in the presence of RAY and CURTIS and other inmates that while he, SERO, had been in Memphis some unknown individual had speculated that if MARTIN LUTHER KING had ever attempted an economic boycott in the city of Memphis, it would be worth a large amount of money to Memphis businessmen to have KING killed. SERO said this conversation had actually taken place in his presence in Memphis but it had been mere speculation and had had no basis in fact. He said he later related this conversation to his prisonmates merely to make conversation and had not intended to imply that any person

112

On 4/24/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA JOE C. HESTER:mnr Date dictated 4/26/68

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or group of persons had or were even contemplating placing a bounty on MARTIN LUTHER KING.

SERO stated that after being returned to Tennessee he was sentenced to three years for uttering forged checks and was incarcerated in the Tennessee State Penitentiary at Ft. Pillow. He said he believes he also related this same speculative conversation to inmates at the Ft. Pillow Prison.

SERO described JAMES EARL RAY as a "hayseed" and a "born loser." He said that to his knowledge RAY had never successfully gotten away with any criminal offense, and it was his belief that RAY had been detected and apprehended following each of his criminal offenses. He said it was his recollection that RAY had a great dislike for Negroes but he cannot recall that he particularly disliked MARTIN LUTHER KING. He said he would not describe RAY as a loner but would simply say he would not know how to make friends or how to mix with other persons. He said that RAY was a regular user of amphetamines in prison but he did not know him to use other narcotics, and he recalled that RAY had mentioned taking narcotic pills prior to being incarcerated.

SERO said that RAY has a deep need for recognition and that he idolizes notorious criminals who are the subjects of wide-spread publicity. He said that when he considers RAY's need for recognition and then considers his dislike for Negroes, it is believable that RAY might have killed MARTIN LUTHER KING for no monetary gain.

He said that RAY had no important criminal connections to his knowledge as criminals of this type would not bother to associate with RAY. He said RAY never talked about his family but did indicate on one occasion that he had friends in Kansas City, Missouri. SERO said he has not heard from RAY since he left MSP, and he has no idea where he might be at present.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/20/68

LAWRENCE CHANCELOR HOWELL, 1888 Denison Street, Memphis, Tennessee, telephone 682-9840, employed at the Federal Aviation Agency, Democrat Road, Memphis, furnished the following information:

HOWELL advised that he resided in Room 23 in a rooming house at 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, from approximately September 11, 1967, until October 3, 1967. Mr. HOWELL advised that while in this rooming house, he was not acquainted with any individual named GALT, and when shown artist's conceptions of GALT, he could not recall having seen anyone of a similar appearance at the rooming house.

114

On 4/16/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA ROBERT W. GOODWIN and
SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK: RF/bbs/wp Date dictated 4/20/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/29/68

LAWRENCE CHANCELOE HOWELL, 1888 Denison Street, Memphis, Tennessee, telephone 682-9840, employed at the Federal Aviation Agency, Democrat Road, Memphis, was reinterviewed and furnished the following additional information:

HOWELL advised that he resided in Room 23 in a rooming house at 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, Alabama, from approximately September 11, 1967, until October 3, 1967. Mr. HOWELL advised that while in this rooming house, he was not acquainted with any individual named GALT or JAMES EARL RAY. HOWELL was shown a photograph of RAY, and he stated that he still could not recall having seen anyone of a similar appearance at the rooming house.

115

On 4/19/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA ROBERT FITZPATRICK:wp Date dictated 4/25/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

INTERVIEWS WITH PERSONS WHO RENTED ROOMS
AT ECONOMY ROOMING HOUSE, BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA

The following investigation was conducted by
SA RAYMOND J. MAXWELL on April 12, 1968:

O. L. BLACK, Route 5, Box 227, Andalusia, Alabama, telephone number 222-1508, telephonically advised that he had not been in Birmingham, Alabama, and did not stay at the Economy Rooming House on Highland Avenue; however, it was his wife, Mrs. O. L. BLACK, and his daughter, Mrs. JAMES E. WELDON, who stayed at the rooming house.

BLACK advised that the name of ERIC STARVO GALT means nothing to him, and that to his knowledge, he has never heard of ERIC STARVO GALT, nor has he ever heard of HARVEY LOWMEYER.

Mrs. O. L. BLACK, telephonically advised that during the fall of 1967 she and her daughter, Mrs. JAMES E. WELDON, Route 4, Box 73, Opelika, Alabama, took Mrs. WELDON's baby to Birmingham, Alabama, for medical treatment. While they were in Birmingham, they stayed at the Economy Rooming House on Highland Avenue. She recalls staying in Rooms 18 and 29 during the period of September 17 through September 24, 1967. Mrs. BLACK advised that when she was not at the hospital where her grandchild was being treated, she would be resting in her room at the Economy Rooming House and she did not mingle with or associate with other people staying at the rooming house. On occasions, she would talk briefly with other women at the rooming house, but she never engaged in any conversation with any men.

Mrs. BLACK advised that the name of GALT and the name of LOWMEYER are not familiar to her, and she definitely does not remember anyone at the rooming house by the name of GALT or LOWMEYER. She stated that if she saw a picture of GALT, she might be able to state whether she had ever seen this individual at the rooming house, but from a description she could not state whether she saw anyone answering GALT's description at the rooming house.

Mrs. BLACK stated that she would cooperate in any way that she could with the FBI, and if the FBI had any pictures

that they wanted her to look at, she would be glad to look at these pictures in an effort to determine if anyone was at the Economy Rooming House during the period of time when she stayed at the rooming house in September, 1967.

The following investigation was conducted by SA HOWARD R. LINSKOTT on April 13, 1968 at Andalusia, Alabama:

Mrs. O. L. BLACK, Route 5, Box 227, Andalusia, Alabama, was shown the sketch of the suspect ERIC STARVO GALT. Mrs. BLACK advised that she had never seen anyone at the rooming house in Birmingham who resembled the photograph. Mrs. BLACK advised that she resided at the rooming house during the period September 17-24, 1967, at which time she was in Birmingham to see about a grandchild of hers who was in the hospital there. Mrs. BLACK advised that the only time she saw any men around the rooming house was in the mornings at breakfast time; however, she stated she had never seen anyone at breakfast who resembled the photograph.

The following investigation was conducted at Opelika, Alabama, by SA ROY H. EVELAND:

On April 12, 1968, JAMES E. WELDON, 23 Dorsey Street, mail address, Route 4, Box 73, Opelika, Alabama, an employee of Ampex Corporation, advised that his wife, SHELLEY WELDON, and his mother-in-law, Mrs. OVIS LEE BLACK, Route 5, Box 227, Andalusia, Alabama, had stayed at the Economy Rooming House, Birmingham, Alabama, for several days during part of 1967. His daughter, TAMMY LORRAINE WELDON, was having an operation and his wife would stay at the hospital with their daughter during the nights and sleep at the rooming house during the days. The mother-in-law would stay with the daughter at the hospital during the days and would sleep at the rooming house at night. He and his wife have been taking their daughter to the Crippled Children's Hospital in Birmingham for five years for corrective operations. He and his wife generally stay at the Economy Rooming House when in Birmingham. He said that if he had been at the Economy Rooming House during September, 1967, it would have been only for an overnight visit. He does not remember anyone at his rooming house by the name of GALT or a similar name and could not place anyone fitting the description as given for suspect ERIC STARVO GALT.

Mrs. JAMES E. (SHELLEY) WELDON, Route 4, Box 73, Opelika, advised on April 12, 1968 that she recalls staying at the Economy Rooming House in Birmingham, Alabama, September 17-24, 1968. She and her mother, OVIS LEE BLACK, of Andalusia, Alabama, were there with her daughter who was a patient at the Crippled Children's Hospital in Birmingham. She said she did not recall anyone by the name ERIC STARVO GALT or any similar name at this rooming house and she does not recall anyone there fitting the description as given for suspect GALT.

AT AUBURN, ALABAMA:

On April 12, 1968 it was ascertained that THOMAS D. FRANKLIN was residing at the Phi Theta Tau, 317 S. College Street, Auburn, Alabama, while attending Auburn University. It was ascertained that on that date he was away from Auburn believed to be attending the Masters Golf Tournament in Augusta, Georgia.

On April 15, 1968, FRANKLIN was contacted on his return to Auburn and advised he had stayed at the Economy Rooming House, 2608 Highland Avenue, Birmingham, for about two weeks during the last part of August and early September, 1967. He advised he was working at the Avondale Mills in North Birmingham under the Co-op Program of Auburn University.

FRANKLIN said that he had seen articles in the newspaper recently, including a sketch of suspect in the killing of MARTIN LUTHER KING at Memphis, Tennessee. He said that he did not know anyone by the name of ERIC STARVO GALT, and he does not recall anyone at the Economy Rooming House who looked like the sketch of the suspect which he had seen in the newspaper. He also said he does not recall seeing anyone around the rooming house driving a white Mustang automobile.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/30/68

Lieutenant A. S. ZELINSKI, Inspectional Bureau, Memphis Police Department, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that he and Lieutenant J. L. HARRISON met Memphis City Engineer ARTHUR C. HOLBROOK, P. E., Tennessee License No. 5173, and a surveying crew at the Lorraine Motel on April 23, 1968, at 8:30 a.m. Certain engineering measurements were subsequently taken.

Lieutenant ZELINSKI advised that an engineer's transit was placed over the spot where Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., was shot, the telescope being positioned 59 inches above the balcony floor. This height was based on information contained in the autopsy report of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., which indicated that the missile entered his body at a point 59 inches above the right heel with the head positioned to correspond with the path of the missile. He stated that the point where Dr. KING was standing when shot was indicated to them by Reverend JAMES BEVEL, a representative of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, who was staying at the Lorraine Motel.

From this position, two triangles were established with a baseline common to the two triangles established and measured. Every effort was made to ensure accuracy. It was determined that the level distance from the second floor rear bathroom window sill of 422½ South Main Street to the point where Dr. KING was standing on the balcony of the Lorraine Motel was 206.36 feet and the in-line distance from the window sill to the point where Dr. KING was standing was 207.02 feet. The window sill at the rear of 422½ South Main was determined to be 16.63 feet higher than a point 59 inches above the floor of the balcony of the Lorraine Motel at the location Dr. KING was standing when he was shot. The downward angle of the direct in-line distance from the second floor window sill at the rear of 422½ South Main to a point 59 inches above the balcony of the Lorraine Motel at the point where Dr. KING was standing was determined to be 4 degrees 36 minutes 25 seconds.

119*

On 4/29/68 at Memphis, Tennessee File # Memphis 44-1987

by SA HOWARD D. TETEN:wp Date dictated 4/30/68

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5/1/68

AIRTEL

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, DALLAS (44-2649) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel dated 4/25/68 re threats against KING.

ReBuairtel referred to matter captioned "ALLEGED OFFER OF \$100,000 BY WHITE KNIGHTS OF KU KLUX KLAN, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, TO ANYONE WHO KILLS MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM, RACIAL MATTER". Initial information in that case was received from [redacted] who at the time he reported the information, was incarcerated in the Grayson County Jail, Sherman, Texas. [redacted] was released on \$1,000 bond on 6/19/67 and was believed to have returned to Atlanta, Georgia.

On 4/30/68, investigation at Sherman, Texas, revealed that the last known address of [redacted] as of 6/19/67, was to be care of HAROLD B. FITZGERALD, SPENCER INTERNATIONAL PRESS, 3220 Peachtree Road, NE, Atlanta, Georgia. MARY LOU CROCKETT, Secretary to the County Attorney, Sheriff GEORGE W. BLANTON, and Court Appointed Attorney JOHN HILL, all of Grayson County, Sherman, Texas, advised they have heard nothing from [redacted] since his release on bond. The charge against him is still pending but the county has no intention of proceeding with prosecution.

3 - Bureau
2 - Jackson (157-9596)
2 - Atlanta (44-2386)
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Dallas
WBB/egl
(11)

157-9586-445

CCD [Signature]

Review 157-7990
Interview Sybil Ene

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 2 - 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

[Signature]

DL 44-2649

Jackson was designated office of origin in this matter and Dallas has had no investigative interest since submitting RUC letter to Bureau and interested offices dated 7/14/67.

Jackson should refer to their file captioned as set forth in paragraph one and conduct logical investigation to determine if [redacted] and persons referred to by him are implicated in KING's death.

Atlanta re urfile 100-5585. Locate [redacted] through above address and interview for any information he may have obtained re alleged offer to kill KING since [redacted] release from jail on 6/19/67.

5/1/68

AIRTEL

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, DALLAS (44-1040) (P)
SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel dated 4/25/68 re threats against KING.

ReBureau airtel referred to matter captioned "ALLEGED OFFER OF \$100,000 BY WHITE KNIGHTS OF KU KLUX KLAN, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, TO ANYONE WHO KILLS MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM, RACIAL MATTER". Initial information in that case was received from [redacted] who at the time he reported the information, was incarcerated in the Grayson County Jail, Sherman, Texas. [redacted] was released on \$1,000 bond on 6/19/67 and was believed to have returned to Atlanta, Georgia.

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3 - Bureau
2 - Jackson (157-9586)
2 - Atlanta (44-2386)
2 - Memphis (44-1987)
2 - Dallas
WPH/egl
(11)

Lead to Boutan to interview Sybil Earl

157-9586-445

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 2 - 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

DL 44-2649

Jackson was designated office of origin in this matter and Dallas has had no investigative interest since submitting RUC letter to Bureau and interested offices dated 7/14/67.

Jackson should refer to their file captioned as set forth in paragraph one and conduct logical investigation to determine if [redacted] and persons referred to by him are implicated in KING's death.

Atlanta re urfile 100-5583. Locate [redacted] through above address and interview for any information he may have obtained re alleged offer to kill KING since [redacted] release from jail on 6/10/67.

F B I

Date: 5/1/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

TO: SAC, MEMPHIS (44-1987)

FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

MURKIN

Re Columbia teletype to Jackson, 4/26/68, with airmail copy furnished to Memphis.

Referenced teletype sets forth information from [redacted] AFS Charleston, South Carolina, (CONCEAL IDENTITY) wherein [redacted] states he was stationed at Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi, prior to September, 1967, and did business at Fernwood Texaco Station in Biloxi, Mississippi.

He advised that the owner of the station was WAYNE RODGERS and that one of RODGERS's employees, a white male, 40 to 50 years old, was heard to state many times that he knew of a man that would pay a large sum of money for someone to kill KING.

Investigation at Biloxi, Mississippi, disclosed the following:

LOWELL WAYNE ROGERS, Owner, Fernwood Texaco Service Station, located and interviewed and states that prior to September 1967, he and WOODY PRINGLE were partners in the

2 - Memphis RM
1 - Columbia (44-289) (Info) RM
(2) - Jackson
JLP:ccs
(5)

157-9586-444
Searched _____
Serialized JP
Indexed _____
Filed JP

Approved: _____

Special Agent in Charge

Sent _____ M Per _____

JN 157-9586

Fernwood Texas Station and that during that period of time, in addition to himself and PRINGLE, an individual identified as THOMAS MOODY, a white male, age approximately 44, and JOE SWANIER, a Negro male, approximately 28, were employed at the station.

ROGERS advised that he has never heard either PRINGLE or MOODY make any comment which could be construed to indicate that either of them was aware of an individual who would pay a great sum of money to kill MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ROGERS advised that he has never made such a comment himself.

ROGERS advised that at the present time PRINGLE, MOODY, and SWAINER were working at the Fernwood Service Station, Biloxi, Mississippi. He said that to the best of his knowledge neither MOODY nor PRINGLE were particularly opposed to the civil rights movement and are not known to have ever been members of any organization opposed to the civil rights movement.

THOMAS BLOUNT MOODY was interviewed at Biloxi, Mississippi, on 4/26/68. He advised that to the best of his recollection he never made the comment to anyone indicating that he knew anyone who would be willing to pay a large sum of money to see that Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., was killed. MOODY indicated that he is not opposed to the civil rights movement although he did not feel that the methods employed by certain civil rights leaders, including Doctor KING, were in the best interest of the country. He indicated that he regretted that Doctor KING had been murdered and felt that it was a tragedy for the nation. MOODY vehemently denied that he has made such a statement concerning the murder of KING. He stated that on occasion when he drinks he might make a statement of this type just to show off. He indicated that if such a statement was made, it was certainly no basis for it in fact.

JN 157-9586

WOODROW W. PRINGLE, JR., was interviewed at Biloxi, Mississippi, on April 27, 1968.

PRINGLE stated that he has been acquainted with MOODY for several years and considers MOODY to be an honest, trustworthy individual. In the years that he has known MOODY, he stated he has never heard MOODY make any statement which might indicate that he was violently opposed to the civil rights movement in this country. Specifically, PRINGLE stated he has never heard MOODY make any type of comment which could be construed to indicate that MOODY knew of an individual who would pay a large sum of money to have Doctor KING killed. He stated to the best of his knowledge MOODY has never been a member of any Klan or hate-type organization and has never shown a propensity for violence in regard to the civil rights movement.

JOSEPH (NMN) SWAINER was interviewed at Biloxi, Mississippi, on April 27, 1968.

SWAINER, a male Negro, advised that prior to September, 1967, he was employed by ROGERS and PRINGLE at the Fernwood Texaco Service Station. During this period of time he worked with an individual named THOMAS MOODY, and he indicated he thought he was very well acquainted with MOODY. He said he never heard MOODY make any type of comment which might indicate MOODY was aware of an individual who would pay a large sum of money to see MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., killed.

SWAINER said he has no reason to believe that MOODY is now or ever has been a member of any Klan or hate-type organization.

All of the above investigation was conducted by SA PAUL A. MEISSNER, JR.

JN 157-9586

Inasmuch as the above investigation is purely negative, FD 302s containing description and background information are being retained at Jackson.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)
FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

TO : SAC, JACKSON(157-2015)

DATE: 4/30/68

FROM : SA HAROLD LEO PABST

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

Liaison with groups sponsoring integration

Source contacted 4/30/68 at Clarksdale, Mississippi.

Source advised that he has not had any further contact with W.O. DIXON, who last contacted him telephonically April 13, 1968. He also advised that he has not had any contact with THOMAS ALLISON GARR and there has been no evidence that GARR was attempting to intimidate [REDACTED] in any manner. He advised that DIXON's call on April 13, 1968, may have been DIXON's way of warning [REDACTED] to be careful in view of the recent murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He did not consider it a threat by DIXON but a reminder to be cautious.

Source stated that he does not intend to participate as a marcher in the Poor People's March; however, he plans to go to Washington, D.C. during the demonstration there for several days. He stated that the NAACP is not actively recruiting participants in the march on Washington, D.C., since there are other local and state projects which demand most of his time. He stated that the NAACP is not opposed to the march and is endorsing it, even though not actively organizing for it.

157-9586-443

1-157-2015
1-157-94
1-Washington Spring Project
1-157-9586 (MURKIN)
HLE:IT
(4)

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 1 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 5-1-68

FROM : SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On April 11, 1968, Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN telephonically advised that he did not desire that any negative type investigation, which eliminates local Jackson suspects, be sent to Memphis. He advised that negative type information should be indexed and filed at Jackson rather than be furnished to Memphis.

See In airtel to Memphis 5/1/68.

Attached marked for indexing.

1 - Jackson
JLP/brh
(1)



5010-103-01

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

CCO
marked for indexing

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
MAY 1 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	

157-9586-442

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/30/681

WOODROW W. PRINGLE, JR., 202 Pinewood Circle, Gulfport, Mississippi, was contacted at his place of employment, Fernwood Shell Service Station. PRINGLE was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and of the purpose of the interview. He furnished the following information:

PRINGLE stated that prior to September, 1967 he and WAYNE ROGERS were partners in the Fernwood Texaco Service Station. During that time he stated that Sergeant ROBERT ELDRIDGE, stationed at Keesler, was a regular customer and became quite friendly with THOMAS MOODY, who was also employed at the service station at that time.

PRINGLE stated that he has been acquainted with MOODY for several years and considers MOODY to be an honest and trustworthy individual. In the years that he has known MOODY he stated he has never heard MOODY make any statement which might indicate that he was violently opposed to the Civil Rights movement in this country. Specifically PRINGLE stated he has never heard MOODY make any type of comment which could be construed to indicate that he, MOODY, knew of any individual who would pay a large sum of money to have Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. killed. He stated to the best of his knowledge MOODY has never been a member of any Klan or hate type organization and has never shown a propensity for violence in regard to the Civil Rights movement.

PRINGLE stated that he could furnish no further information of value in this matter.

On 4/27/68 at Biloxi, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA PAUL A. MEISSNER, JR.:jrs Date dictated 4/30/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/30/681

JOSEPH (NO MIDDLE NAME) SWANIER, Route 2, Box 308, Gulfport, Mississippi, was interviewed at the Fernwood Shell Service Station where he is employed. SWANIER was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the purpose of the interview. He furnished the following information:

SWANIER advised that prior to September, 1967, he was employed by L. C. ROGERS and WOODY PRINGLE at the Fernwood Texaco Service Station. During this period of time he worked with an individual named THOMAS MOODY and he indicated that he thought he was fairly well acquainted with MOODY. SWANIER advised that during the period of time he has known and worked with MOODY, MOODY has never made any type of comment which might indicate that he, MOODY, was aware of an individual who would pay a large sum of money to see MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. killed.

SWANIER advised that he had no reason to believe that MOODY is now or ever has been a member of any Klan or hate-type organization. SWANIER advised he could furnish no further information of value in this matter.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Race:	Negro
Sex:	Male
Date of Birth:	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; height: 20px;"></div>
Place of Birth:	Gulfport, Mississippi
Hair:	Black
Eyes:	Brown
Height:	6'
Weight:	165
Build:	Slender

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

On 4/27/68 at Biloxi, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA PAUL A. MEISSNER, JR.:jrs Date dictated 4/30/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/30/681

LOWELL WAYNE ROGERS, 1619 Third Street, Gulfport, Mississippi, was interviewed at Fernwood Texaco Service Station, of which he is the owner. ROGERS was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and of the purpose of the interview. He furnished the following information:

Prior to September, 1967, he and WOODY PRINGLE were partners in ownership of the Fernwood Texaco Service Station. During that period of time in addition to him and PRINGLE, an individual identified as THOMAS MOODY, white male, age approximately 44, and JOE SWANIER, Negro male, approximate age 28, were employed at the service station. ROGERS advised that he has never heard either PRINGLE or MOODY make any comment which could be construed as indicating that either of them was aware of an individual who would pay a great sum of money to kill Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. ROGERS advised also that he had never made such a comment.

ROGERS continued that at the present time PRINGLE, MOODY and SWANIER were working at the Fernwood Shell Service Station, Biloxi, Mississippi, owned and operated by PRINGLE. ROGERS was unable to furnish any further information of value in this matter, but stated to the best of his knowledge, neither MOODY nor PRINGLE were particularly opposed to the Civil Rights movement and to the best of his knowledge neither of them had ever participated or been a member of an organization violently opposed to the Civil Rights movement.

ROGERS stated that should he obtain any information of value in this matter he would immediately contact the FBI.

On 4/26/68 at Biloxi, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA PAUL A. MEISSNER, JR.:jrs Date dictated 4/30/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/30/68

1

THOMAS BLOUNT MOODY was interviewed at his place of employment, Fernwood Shell Service Station. MOODY was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent and the purpose of the interview. He furnished the following information:

MOODY stated that he had never, to the best of his recollection, made a comment to anyone which could be construed as indicating that he knew anyone who would be willing to pay a large sum of money to see that Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was killed. MOODY indicated that although he was not an open advocate of Civil Rights and although he did not feel that the methods employed by certain Civil Rights leaders, including Dr. KING, were in the best interest of the country, he was not by any stretch of the imagination disposed to any type of violence in this regard. He indicated that he regretted that Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. had been murdered and felt that it was a tragedy for the nation. MOODY once again vehemently denied that he ever made such a statement, however, he stated that on occasion when he drinks he might make a statement of this type just "blowing smoke." He indicated that if such a statement was made, it was certainly no basis for it in fact.

MOODY advised that he was acquainted with a Sergeant ROBERT ELDRIDGE, who was a customer of his when he was employed at the Fernwood Texaco Service Station prior to September, 1967. He stated he and ELDRIDGE became fairly good friends and that they engaged in numerous bull sessions, during which time he as well as ELDRIDGE were prone to boasting and exaggeration. He thus stated that it was not impossible that he might have said something which might be construed as indicating he knew of someone who might have been willing to pay a great deal of money for the death of MARTIN LUTHER KING

On 4/26/68 at Biloxi, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA PAUL A. MEISSNER, JR.:jrs Date dictated 4/30/68

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JN 157-9586

2

however again he stated that he did not remember making such a statement and further indicated that if he did it certainly had no basis in fact.

MOODY advised that he is not now nor has he ever been a member of or sympathized with any type of organization which was prone to violence in its opposition to the Civil Rights movement. Specifically he stated he was not now nor had he ever been a member of any Klan type organization. MOODY was unable to provide any further information of value in this matter.

The following description was obtained from observation and interview:

Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Date of Birth:	9/20/24/
Place of Birth:	Graceville, Florida
Height:	5'7½"
Weight:	145
Hair:	Grey, receding
Build:	Medium
Eyes:	Brown
Military Service:	United States Navy 1943-45
Service #:	8376989
Arrests:	Admits drunk arrest 14 years ago Norfolk, Virginia
Residence:	488 Weaver, Mississippi City, Mississippi

F B I

Date: 5/1/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)
FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)
MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel to Jackson, Dallas, and
Jacksonville 4/25/68.

Referenced Bureau airtel set out instances
of threats from the main file on KING.

Paragraph 2 of referenced communication con-
cerning SAM HOLLOWAY BOWERS, JR., Imperial Wizard, WKKKKOM,
reportedly making a statement at a Klan meeting near
Harrisville, Mississippi on 11/15/64, that two men had
requested his permission to shoot KING.

A review of the Jackson file in this matter
disclosed that two Jackson informants furnished this
information.

3 - Bureau (RM)
1 - Memphis (44-1987) (Info) (RM)
② - Jackson (157-9586)
(1 - 157-18)
JLP/jdh *jdh*
(6)

157-9586-441

Searched	<i>pb</i>
Serialized	<i>pb</i>
Indexed	<i>pb</i>
Filed	

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge

JN 157-9586

[redacted] advised on 11/16/64 that at a state-wide meeting of the WKKKKOM near Harrisville, Miss. on 11/16/64 SAM BOWERS was asked by an unknown Klansman why MARTIN LUTHER KING was not killed when he came to Miss. during the Summer of 1964. BOWERS allegedly replied that two men came to him who claimed they were good with a rifle and wanted his approval to take care of KING. BOWERS stated at this particular meeting that he gave these two men strict orders not to take any chances whatsoever and added that these two men never returned and he heard no more concerning this matter.

On 11/16/64 [redacted] advised that during the same state meeting as set forth above, some individuals reported that MARTIN LUTHER KING had expected to come to Mc Comb, Miss. on Monday, 11/16/64 and that all business places in Mc Comb would be tested by integrationists on that date. Someone remarked that something should be done about this and SAM BOWERS stated that when MARTIN LUTHER KING last toured the State of Miss., two men were assigned with high-powered rifles to take care of KING, but plans went amiss when KING took a route other than the one he was supposed to. BOWERS stated that these two men are working on this matter. He did not identify the two men.

On 4/30/68 [redacted] ^(closed) was located and interviewed. He could add nothing further to the information he furnished on 11/16/64.

On 5/1/68 [redacted] reported that he had nothing additional concerning the above incident.

[redacted] was contacted during the evening of 4/4/68 immediately after the assassination of KING and he had no information of value at that time.

Other incidents summarized in referenced airtel are being investigated, where possible, to determine if any persons concerned ^{are} implicated in anyway with KING's death.

F B I

Date: 5/1/68

Transmit the following in PLAINTEXT
(Type in plaintext or code)Via TELETYPE URGENT
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR (44-38861), ATLANTA, AND BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)

FROM: JACKSON (157-9586) 2P

MURKIN

RE BIRMINGHAM TEL TO BUREAU, ATLANTA, JACKSON,
KANSAS CITY, MEMPHIS, AND MIAMI APRIL THIRTY LAST.

SUPERVISOR JOHN WHITE, DELTA AIRLINES, JACKSON, MISS.,
ADVISED MAY ONE INSTANT THAT INBOUND-PASSENGER RECORDS ARE
NOT MAINTAINED BEYOND TWENTY-FOUR HOURS. PASSENGER WEAVER
(FNU) NOT RECALLED AND UNKNOWN AT JACKSON. WHITE ADVISED
PRESENT LOCATION OF CREW OF FLIGHT ONE FIVE ONE FROM BIRM-
INGHAM TO JACKSON TO DALLAS CAN BE OBTAINED AT DELTA AIRLINES,
ATLANTA. WHITE ADVISED THAT IN EVENT WEAVER PURCHASED TICKET
AT BIRMINGHAM OVER THE COUNTER IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO TAKEOFF,
NO FURTHER IDENTIFYING DATA WOULD BE AVAILABLE. IN THE
EVENT WEAVER MADE RESERVATION AND PICKED UP TICKET AT COUNTER,

1 - JACKSON
1 - MEMPHIS (44-1987)

JLP:mif

(2) mif

Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

157-9586-440

Approved: RKM

Special Agent in Charge

Sent AT 2:16Per 10/11

F B I

Date:

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via _____
(Priority)

PAGE TWO

FURTHER DESCRIPTIVE INFORMATION WOULD BE AVAILABLE THROUGH SEARCH OF IBM-TYPE MAGNETIC TAPE AT ATLANTA. HE ADVISED THAT A SEARCH OF THE MAGNETIC TAPE NORMALLY INVOLVES A TEN-DAY WAIT FOR REQUESTED DATA.

BIRMINGHAM WILL RECHECK FLIGHT ONE FIVE ONE, APRIL EIGHT LAST, MANIFEST FOR FURTHER IDENTIFYING DATA.

ATLANTA WILL DETERMINE PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF CREW OF DELTA FLIGHT ONE FIVE ONE, WHICH DEPARTED BIRMINGHAM SIX NINETEEN AM APRIL EIGHT LAST, DESTINED FOR JACKSON AND DALLAS, AND SET OUT LEAD TO EXHIBIT PHOTOGRAPH OF RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

AM COPY TO MEMPHIS.

END.

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____
Special Agent in Charge.

FBI ATLANTA

FBI JKSN MISS

2:16PM 5-1-68 URGENT LDG

TO DIRECTOR (44-38861), ATLANTA, AND BIRMINGHAM (44-1740)
FROM JACKSON (157-9586)

MURKIN

RE BIRMINGHAM TEL TO BUREAU, ATLANTA, JACKSON,
KANSAS CITY, MEMPHIS, AND MIAMI APRIL THIRTY LAST.

SUPERVISOR JOHN WHITE, DELTA AIRLINES, JACKSON, MISS.,
ADVISED MAY ONE INSTANT THAT INBOUND-PASSENGER RECORDS ARE
NOT MAINTAINED BEYOND TWENTYFOUR HOURS. PASSENGER WEAVER
(FNU) NOT RECALLED AND UNKNOWN AT JACKSON. WHITE ADVISED
PRESENT LOCATION OF CREW OF FLIGHT ONE FIVE ONE FROM BIRMINGHAM
TO JACKSON TO DALLAS CAN BE OBTAINED AT DELTA AIRLINES, ATLANTA.
WHITE ADVISED THAT IN EVENT WEAVER PURCHASED TICKET AT BIRMINGHAM
OVER THE COUNTER IMMEDIATELY PRIOR TO TAKEOFF, NO FURTHER
IDENTIFYING DATA WOULD BE AVAILABLE. IN THE EVENT WEAVER MADE
RESERVATION AND PICKED UP TICKET AT COUNTER, FURTHER DESCRIPTIVE
END PAGE ONE

157-9586-440

Searched	_____
Serialized	_____
Indexed	_____
Filed	_____

PAGE TWO

INFORMATION WOULD BE AVAILABLE THROUGH SEARCH OF IBM-TYPE
MAGNETIC TAPE AT ATLANTA. HE ADVISED THAT A SEARCH OF THE
MAGNETIC TAPE NORMALLY INVOLVES A TEN-DAY WAIT FOR REQUESTED DATA.

BIRMINGHAM WILL RECHECK FLIGHT ONE FIVE ONE, APRIL EIGHT LAST,
MANIFEST FOR FURTHER IDENTIFYING DATA.

ATLANTA WILL DETERMINE PRESENT WHEREABOUTS OF CREW OF DELTA
FLIGHT ONE FIVE ONE, WHICH DEPARTED BIRMINGHAM SIX NINETEEN AM
APRIL EIGHT LAST, DESTINED FOR JACKSON AND DALLAS, AND SET OUT
LEAD TO EXHIBIT PHOTOGRAPH OF RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

AM COPY TO MEMPHIS.

END.

VSC

FBI ATLANTA

HBP BIRMGHAM

FBI JKSN MISS

2:20 JGA

FBI BIRMGHAM

HBI WASH DC

FBI JKSN MISS

2:23 SVW

FBI WASH DC

TU

FBI JKSN MISS

FBI BIRMGHAM
850 PM URGENT 4-30-68 GDM
TO DIRECTOR, ATLANTA, JACKSON, KANSAS CITY, MEMPHIS AND MIAMI
FROM BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

MURKIN. CR. OO: MEMPHIS.

RE ATLANTA TEL TO BIRMINGHAM, BUREAU, AND MEMPHIS, THIS DATE.
SIXTY EIGHT AMERICAN MOTORS REBEL TWO DOOR, RED IN COLOR,
SIXTY EIGHT GA. LICENSE ONE - FOUR FOUR NINE ONE FOUR, VIN A
EIGHT A ONE NINE SEVEN M TWO FOUR EIGHT ONE NINE SEVEN, DETERMINED
TO HAVE BEEN ABANDONED AT BIRMINGHAM MUNICIPAL AIRPORT PARKING
LOT, BETWEEN THE HOURS OF ELEVEN P.M., APR. SEVEN, LAST, AND
SIX A.M., APR. EIGHT, LAST. INTERVIEWS CONDUCTED WITH EMPLOYEES
HERTZ RENT A CAR, BIRMINGAM, ALA., WHO FIRST DISCOVERED VEHICLE
BACKED IN TO WASH RACK, AND ADVISED THAT DUE TO DECAL NUMBER ON
REAR WINDOW AND DOORPOST, THEY IMMEDIATELY NOTICED THIS VEHICLE
TO BE A HERTZ RENT A CAR FROM ATLANTA, GA. EMPLOYEES SAID THAT
VEHICLE DOORS WERE NOT LOCKED: HOWEVER, KEY WAS MISSING FROM
IGNITION AND ONLY ITEM RECALLED IN CAR WAS ONE BOX PARTIALLY
EATEN DONUTS. EMPLOYEES STATED THAT SINCE NO IGNITION KEY
END PAGE ONE

157-9586-439

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	

PAGE TWO

AVAILABLE, THEY PUSHED THIS VEHICLE OUT OF THE PARKING LOT AND THEREAFTER LOCKED DOORS AND AT NO TIME WAS THIS VEHICLE CLEANED INSIDE OR WASHED ON THE OUTSIDE. THEY WERE UNABLE TO STATE IF THIS VEHICLE HAD BEEN HOTWIRED. INSTANT VEHICLE REMAINED AT HERTZ RENT A CAR, BIRMINGHAM MUNICIPAL AIRPORT, UNTIL APR. TWO SIX, LAST, AT WHICH TIME AN IGNITION KEY WAS OBTAINED FOR VEHICLE AND THEREAFTER CAR RETURNED TO HERTZ RENT A CAR, ATLANTA, GA., HAVING BEEN DRIVEN BY JESSIE SOLAMON, ROUTE ONE, RIVERDALE, GA., MILEAGE OUT FIVE HUNDRED TEN.

INTERVIEWS WITH HERTZ EMPLOYEES DISCLOSED THAT NO PERSONNEL IS EMPLOYED DURING THE HOURS ELEVEN P.M. THROUGH SIX A.M., AND NO INDIVIDUALS OBSERVED INSTANT VEHICLE ARRIVE AT AIRPORT.

ATLANTA WILL IMMEDIATELY LOCATE AND INTERVIEW SALLY WILLIS, GRAY ADVERTISING, INC., AND DETERMINE FROM HER IF SHE PERSONALLY REMOVED IGNITION KEYS FROM VEHICLE WHEN SHE RETURNED CAR TO ATLANTA AIRPORT WHERE VEHICLE WAS PARKED. ASCERTAIN WHERE SHE LAST LEFT CAR.

DETERMINE FROM HERTZ FULL PARTICULARS CONCERNING PREVIOUS RENTAL AND SPECIFICALLY MILEAGE AT TIME VEHICLE TURNED IN AND

END PAG TWO

PAGE THREE

IF THEY CAN RECALL WHAT HAPPENED TO THE IGNITION KEYS. DETERMINE FROM HERTZ AFTER VEHICLE WAS RETURNED IF IGNITION WAS HOTWIRED. WILL INTERVIEW JESSIE SOLAMON, ROUTE ONE, RIVERDALE, GA., CONCERNING HIS TRANSPORTING INSTANT VEHICLE BACK TO ATLANTA, AND IF HE NOTED ANY CORRESPONDENCE OR PERSONAL EFFECTS THEREIN.

RE FLIGHTS FROM BIRMINGHAM BETWEEN ELEVEN P.M., APR. SEVEN, LAST, AND SIX NINETEEN A.M., APR. EIGHT, LAST.

DELTA AIRLINES HAS FOUR FLIGHTS: NO. FIVE FIVE, WHICH LEAVES ELEVEN FIVE FIVE P.M., GOING TO MEMPHIS AND KANSAS CITY; NO. ONE FIVE ONE, WHICH LEAVES AT SIX NINETEEN A.M., GOING TO JACKSON, MISS. AND DALLAS; FLIGHT FIVE FOUR, WHICH LEAVES AT THREE FORTY A.M., GOING TO ATLANTA; AND FLIGHT EIGHT ONE EIGHT, WHICH LEAVES ONE FORTY FIVE A.M., GOING TO ATLANTA. ONLY OTHER FLIGHT LEAVING BIRMINGHAM AIRPORT BETWEEN THESE HOURS IS EASTERN FLIGHT SIX SIX TWO, WHICH LEAVES AT TWELVE ZERO ONE A.M., GOING TO ATLANTA, AND EASTERN SIX THREE FIVE, WHICH LEAVES AT FOUR ZERO SEVEN A.M., GOING TO PENSACOLA AND MOBILE. SEVEN PERSONS BOARDED EASTERN FLIGHT SIX SIX TWO AT BIRMINGHAM, AND FOUR BOARDED EASTERN FLIGHT SIX THREE FIVE. NAMES OF THESE PASSENGERS ARE KEPT IN

END PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

RECORDS OF EASTERN REGIONAL OFFICE, MIAMI, ON TICKETS PURCHASED BY THEM.

MIAMI IMMEDIATELY EXAMINE THESE TICKETS, ASCERTAIN IDENTITIES OF PASSENGERS, HOW PAYMENT WAS MADE, IDENTITY OF TICKET AGENT, AND SET OUT LEAD TO HAVE THESE PASSENGERS FULLY IDENTIFIED AND INTERVIEWED TO DETERMINE IF THEY CAN RECOGNIZE RAY AS FELLOW PASSENGER. FULLY IDENTIFY CREW ON EACH FLIGHT AND HAVE THEM INTERVIEWED TO SEE IF THEY CAN IDENTIFY PHOTO OF RAY AS PASSENGER ON EITHER FLIGHT.

ATLANTA, AT DELTA AIRLINES, ATLANTA, CONDUCT SIMILAR INVESTIGATION AS THAT REQUESTED OF MIAMI CONCERNING TICKETS AND CREWS, NOTING FOLLOWING PASSENGERS BOARDED AT BIRMINGHAM:

FLIGHT FIVE FIVE, PASSENGERS GOING TO MEMPHIS WERE VAUGHN, WATSON, NASH, QUINTON, COLLINS; GOING TO KANSAS CITY WAS PASSENGER SLATTERY; CREW CONSISTED OF CAPT. KALLIES, CO-PILOT WIESE, STEWARDESSES SAPPINGTON AND COMPTON, ALL FNU.

PASSENGER (FNU) WEAVER BOARDED FLIGHT ONE FIVE ONE GOING TO JACKSON. OTHER PASSENGERS BOARDING AT BIRMINGHAM LEFT LOCAL TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND BIRMINGHAM WILL IDENTIFY THESE. CREW CONSISTED OF CAPT. MORRISON, CO-PILOT WARREN, STEWARDESSES
END PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

CUNNINGHAM AND POWERS, ALL FNU.

BOARDING FLIGHT FIVE FOUR WERE PASSENGERS DANIEL, JOHNSON, WESSLEY, JAVIS; CREW CAPT. DAGGETT, CO-PILOT FUNK, STEWARDESSES REYNOLDS AND WATSON. ALL FNU.

BOARDING FLIGHT EIGHT ONE EIGHT WERE PASSENGERS SANDERS, NEILON, THOMPSON (A MILITARY PERSONNEL); CREW CAPT. FOSTER, CO-PILOT HAAS, ENGINEER COUGHMAN, STEWARDESSES PAYNE, LONG, BERKEY AND JUFFT, ALL FNU..

KANSAS CITY ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY PASSENGER SLATTERY AND INTERVIEW TO ASCERTAIN IF IDENTICAL TO RAY OR FELLOW PASSENGER.

MEMPHIS ATTEMPT TO IDENTIFY MEMPHIS PASSENGERS ON FLIGHT FIVE FIVE, AND CONDUCT SIMILAR INVESTIGATION.

ATLANTA IDENTIFY PASSENGERS LISTED ABOVE GOING TO ATLANTA, ON FLIGHTS FIVE FOUR AND EIGHT ONE EIGHT.

JACKSON CONDUCT SIMILAR INVESTIGATION CONCERNING PASSENGER WEAVER ON FLIGHT ONE FIVE ONE.

END

JWD

FBI JKSN MISS

F B I

Date: 4/25/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)

Via AIRTEL _____

(Priority)

To: SACs Jackson
Dallas
Jacksonville

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)
FOIA(b)(7) - (D)

✓ From: Director, FBI (44-38861)

MURKIN
OO: MEMPHIS

Re Bureau telephone call to Jackson 4/24/68.

The main file on King contains the following threats:

Jackson office, by teletype, 9/17/66, entitled "UNSUB; ALLEGED PLAN TO KILL REVEREND MARTIN LUTHER KING, GRENADA, MISSISSIPPI, RACIAL MATTERS." reported that the

Grenada, Mississippi, who requested his identity be concealed, claimed an attorney in his parish told him two white residents of Grenada planned to assassinate King on 9/19/66, at Grenada. These men allegedly wanted to retain the attorney should they be charged.

Sam Holloway Bowers, Jr., aka Sam, Imperial Wizard, wkkkom, reportedly made a statement at a Klan meeting near Harrisville, Mississippi, on 11/15/64, that two men had requested his permission to shoot King. Bowers reportedly told the men not to take any chances and stated that any American citizen would consider it his patriotic duty to shoot King if given the opportunity.

Bureau airtel 6/15/67, captioned "ALLEGED OFFER OF \$100,000 BY WHITE KNIGHTS OF KU KLUX KLAN, JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, TO ANYONE WHO KILLS MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. - VICTIM, RACIAL MATTER," refers to information received from

2 - Memphis

Sent Via _____

M

Per _____

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 27 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Handwritten: Handle & Set out

Airtel to Jackson
Dallas
Jacksonville

RE: MURKIN

the Dallas office that one [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] then an inmate of the County Jail, Sherman, Texas,
reportedly knew of an offer of \$100,000 to kill King which
had been made by the KKK.

Bureau files indicate that on 4/28/67, [REDACTED]
(PROB) advised that L. C. Blalock, owner of Curley's Place,
Winona, Mississippi, had indicated that one [REDACTED] of
Jacksonville, Florida, would pay the source \$100,000 cash
to kill King. At the time this information was received,
Jacksonville was unable to identify [REDACTED] and Bureau files
were negative on Blalock and [REDACTED]. All offices conduct
logical investigation to determine if above persons and
incidents are implicated in King's death.

Although subject Ray has been identified as the
assailant, you should conduct investigation to determine if
any of the above might be implicated as a conspirator.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

F B I

Date: 4/30/68

Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via AIRTEL AIRMAIL
(Priority)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861)

FROM: SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

MURKIN

Re Bureau airtel, 4/29/68.

Referenced Bureau airtel requested the Jackson Division to identify Jackson teletype dated April 17, 1968, which teletype the Dallas Office referred to in Dallas airtel to the Bureau, dated April 24, 1968.

Jackson file discloses a teletype was sent to Dallas, dated April 17, 1968, with an air mail copy directed to the Bureau and Memphis.

The information in Jackson teletype refers to information furnished by LEE MEREDITH, former Sheriff, DeSoto County, Hernando, Mississippi, who advised that the artist's conception appearing in the Memphis, Tennessee, newspaper resembles one of four individuals arrested in Hernando, Mississippi, who were from Dallas, Texas, and who allegedly were associated with GEORGE LINCOLN ROCKWELL during the MEREDITH March in Mississippi, in 1967. These individuals who were arrested were identified as ROBERT ALLEN SURREY, JERALD THOMAS WALRAVEN, RICHARD JUDSON DICKINSON, ALVIN NEIL GRAY, and TOMMY WADE ORAN.

3 - Bureau
1 - Memphis (Info) (44-1987)
(2) - Jackson

JLP/bjk
(6)

Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

157-9586-437

Approved: _____ Sent _____ M Per _____

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, Jackson

DATE: April 29, 1968

JRM FROM : Director, FBI

SUBJECT: JAMES EARL RAY, aka - FUGITIVE
I.O. #4182; W.F. #442-A
CIVIL RIGHTS - CONSPIRACY;
INTERSTATE FLIGHT - ARMED ROBBERY
"TEN MOST WANTED FUGITIVES" PROGRAM
NEWSPAPER MAT

Being forwarded under separate cover is a supply of newspaper mats and proofs for expeditious distribution to all cooperative daily and weekly newspapers in your territory. Additional publications such as shoppers' guides should not be overlooked in obtaining the greatest possible publicity regarding this fugitive.

In most cases, these mats and proofs may be distributed by mail but when circumstances warrant they may be personally delivered by Special Agents. A form letter over the signature of the Special Agent in Charge may be utilized in distributing this material by mail and this letter should point out that the FBI is requesting the aid of the Nation's press in bringing about the prompt apprehension of this badly sought fugitive.

Prompt distribution should be made and additional supplies, if needed, are available at the Bureau. The following number of mats and proofs are being forwarded to your office under separate cover: 150.

As an additional means of securing widespread publicity concerning Ray, offices covering the place of publication of magazines which have previously cooperated in publicizing FBI fugitives should request the assistance of such publications in carrying an article on captioned fugitive. The Bureau press release, copies of which are available in each office, along with a glossy photograph of this fugitive can be furnished. The earliest possible utilization of this material should be encouraged and special attention should be given to publications aimed at minority groups.

SEARCHED <i>gng</i>	INDEXED <i>gng</i>
SERIALIZED <i>gng</i>	FILED <i>gng</i>
APR 30 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

W. J. Foster

157-9586

157-9586-436



UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : ALL AGENTS

DATE: 4/30/68

FROM: *RKM* SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

ReButel to All SAC's 4/29/68.

The Bureau advised that all offices having law enforcement agencies in their territories which maintain unidentified latent fingerprints in connection with matters under their jurisdiction should immediately contact these agencies and requested that the fingerprints of JAMES EARL RAY as set forth on the I.O. be compared with latents obtained since his escape from Missouri State Penitentiary on 4/23/67.

All Agents assigned to liaison contact with police departments insure that the above is complied with.

1 - Each Agent
1 - 157-9586

JLP/bdb

(82)

lch

157-9586-435

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 4-29-68

FROM : SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On April 11, 1968, Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN telephonically advised that he did not desire that any negative type investigation, which eliminates local Jackson suspects, be sent to Memphis. He advised that negative type information should be indexed and filed at Jackson rather than be furnished to Memphis.

Investigation re -

Roy Hardy

Tom Nelson Davis

John D. Dial

John Ellis Kimbrough

Roy Ray Logan

Robert Earl Davis

Donald Edward Kinnison

Howard La Croix

~~John~~

Everett Gault

1 - Jackson
JLP/brh
(1)

c.c.o. marked for indexing

157-9586-434

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	



5010-108-01

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/681

On April 7, 1968, SA BENJAMIN O. KEUTZER of the Jackson Division, FBI, Jackson, Mississippi, received an anonymous telephone call by a person assumed by his speech to be a Negro male who stated he was calling for a friend who had overheard a telephone conversation on a party-line.

The telephone call was allegedly made from Jackson, Mississippi, to the State of Indiana, area code 317, number 282-3901. *teletype sent - see serial # 157-9586-47*

The alleged telephone call was to the effect that the caller had left Memphis, Tennessee, April 4, 1968, and had traveled to Gulfport, Mississippi, where the caller had gotten rid of the vehicle he was traveling in and had rented lodging.

The word "KING" was mentioned several times during the conversation.

The anonymous caller said his friend would not identify herself to the FBI as she feared for her safety.

The telephone conversation was terminated by the anonymous caller at that time.

On 4/7/68 at Jackson, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA BENJAMIN O. KEUTZER:ccs Date dictated 4/9/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/10/68

Mr. ROY HARDY, Route 3, New Albany, Mississippi, was interviewed at his residence in the presence of Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol (MHSP) Investigator BURT DUNCAN.

HARDY was questioned concerning his activities on the afternoon of April 4, 1968, at which time he advised that he is employed by BILL PHILLIPS, a road contractor, doing road work near Highway 30, and stated on this date it was too wet to operate the heavy equipment, and therefore he was not working. He advised he took this occasion to take his pickup truck to Harris Body Shop in New Albany, and stated after his truck was repaired he stopped by to visit his first cousin, TOM NELSON DAVIS, who lives on South Acres Drive in New Albany. HARDY admitted that he was drinking prior to the time he decided to visit DAVIS, and stated after arriving at DAVIS' house he offered him a drink of whiskey. He recalled that TOM NELSON DAVIS suggested they drive out to the Barbecue Grill at the Beacon Hill community, located just east of New Albany, Mississippi. He recalls that DAVIS was driving his white Mustang, and stated that he followed DAVIS in his pickup truck.

He stated he could not be certain of the time, but stated it was still daylight and probably around 5:30 or 6:00 P.M. He stated that DAVIS sat in the pickup truck with him, and they both had one drink together. He stated DAVIS told him that he had an appointment to meet someone he believed to be at 7:00 P.M., and left.

He advised that DAVIS would not tell him where he planned to go, and stated but as far as he could determine this was the first drink DAVIS had taken on that

On 4/8/68 at Route 3, New Albany, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JOHN DENNIS MILLER and SA ROBIN O. COTTEN:ROC:bal Date dictated 4/9/68

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JN 157-9586

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afternoon.

He stated he returned home and by the time he reached home was very intoxicated and went directly to bed. He advised he did not learn concerning the shooting of Doctor MARTIN LUTHER KING until the following day.

He advised that at no time during his brief conversation with TOM NELSON DAVIS, did he ever mention the name of Doctor KING.

He volunteered that he knows DAVIS has an extensive criminal record, and has served time for armed robbery, but has no reason to believe that DAVIS would be the type of person who would kill anyone without provocation.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/11/68

Mrs. JUDY DIAL, 501 Birkshire Circle, Clinton, Mississippi, advised her husband is JOHN D. DIAL. Mrs. DIAL stated that her husband formerly had a light blue Ford with an Alabama license on it.

Mrs. DIAL stated her husband is a drug salesman for the Lam-Par Company, 277 Mockingbird Lane, Dallas, Texas.

Mrs. DIAL stated that on April 4, 1968, her husband checked out of a motel at Memphis, Tennessee, and came back to their home at Clinton, Mississippi. She stated she believed he stayed in the Holiday Inn on Third Street at Memphis while he was there. Mrs. DIAL stated that on the night of April 4, 1968 she and her husband were listening to their television at their home in Clinton when they heard about the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., at Memphis.

Mrs. DIAL then stated that her husband had recently turned this light blue Ford into the company at Dallas, and that he was at this time driving a Chrysler vehicle and that he was out of the state and would return either on April 11, 1968, or April 12, 1968.

Mrs. DIAL could furnish no further information concerning the light blue Ford her husband formerly drove, nor could she furnish any other information concerning the license plate other than the Ford had been originally purchased in Alabama.

On 4/9/68 at Clinton, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA EDGAR L. MARTIN:pdb Date dictated 4/11/68

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 4/10/68

FROM : SA DAVID H. PHILLIPS

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Rememo of SA BENJAMIN F. GRAVES, 4/8/68.

MARY WILLIAMSON, Clerk, Medical Records Division, Mississippi State Hospital, Whitfield, Miss., advised that according to hospital records, JOHN ELLIS KIMBROUGH, DOB 6/1/08, Route 4, Union, Miss., has never been a patient; however, he was employed in the maintenance department as a Sewage Disposal Operator on two different occasions. The first occasion was 4/8/59 - 9/8/59. The second period of employment was 4/25/69 - 1/26/68. According to hospital records, KIMBROUGH was a model worker and at no time posed any problem while he was employed at the hospital.

Mrs. WILLIAMSON advised that KIMBROUGH's wife, ZEXA KIMBROUGH is a former employee of the hospital and she currently has a brother who is employed at the hospital as a barber. The brother's name is MALCOM MC NAIR, address, General Delivery, Whitfield, Miss.

② - Jackson *one copy destroyed*
DHP:pdh
(2)

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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APR 10 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	



FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/10/68

ALBERT C. LOGAN, Constable, Houlka (Chickasaw County), Mississippi, advised that ROY RAY LOGAN is his brother who resides on Madison Avenue in Memphis, Tennessee. He stated that if there was information contained in the records of the Holiday Inn, Memphis, Tennessee, that ROY R. LOGAN was registered from April 5-6, 1968, whose employment was shown as Chickasaw County Sheriff's Office, this information had to be erroneous. He explained that his brother, ROY RAY LOGAN, is employed on either a full-time or a part-time basis with the Shelby County Sheriff's Office in Memphis, Tennessee, and he thought perhaps that the records of the Holiday Inn were misinterpreted.

LOGAN further advised that he had not been in Memphis, Tennessee, during the past month and he could not account for the activities of his brother, ROY RAY LOGAN, on April 5 or 6, 1968. He stated that his brother is a friend of another Mississippi resident, FRED BALLARD, from Tupelo, Mississippi, who is also employed by the Shelby County Sheriff's Office.

LOGAN described his brother as being approximately 30 years of age and weighing over 300 pounds. He characterized him as being a person who just "naturally hated Niggers", and it would not surprise him if his brother was involved in the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING.

On 4/10/68 at Houston, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA LAWRENCE W. GORMAN:pdb Date dictated 4/10/68

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JN 157-9586

ECF/jdh

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA EDGAR C. FORTENBERRY:

AT COLUMBIA, MISSISSIPPI

On April 12, 1968, a physical check was made of the residence of F. A. DE BAY, 912 Sunset Circle, at which time it was determined that no one was at home, and no automobiles of any description were parked at the above address.

On April 12, 1968, Mrs. DORIS R. BROOM, Clerk, Marion County Sheriff's Office, advised that the files of her office reflect that 1968 Mississippi license 46-3994, was issued to FRANK A. DE BAY, 912 Sunset Circle, Columbia, Mississippi for a 1966 Ford Custom 6-cylinder, four-door, color - blue, VIN 6G52V182916.

Mrs. BROOM stated that 1968 Mississippi license 46-3917 was issued to F. A. DE BAY, 912 Sunset Circle, Columbia, Mississippi for a 1954 Plymouth, two-door, VIN A25163566.

Mrs. BROOM stated that according to the records of her office no other automobiles are registered to FRANK A. DE BAY in Marion County, Mississippi.

AT HATTIESBURG, MISSISSIPPI

On April 12, 1968, Mrs. BETH SWILLEY, Radio Operator, Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol, advised that substitute automobile licenses are issued by the Motor Vehicle Comptroller's Office, Jackson, Mississippi, therefore the identity of the person to whom 1968 substitute license "SUB-C-2" was issued is recorded with the Motor Vehicle Comptroller's Office, Jackson, Mississippi.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 16, 1968

Mr. MARVIN WATSON, Clerk, Southern Airlines, Oxford, Mississippi, advised that after checking his records, only one passenger arrived in Oxford on Flight 781 on April 8, 1968, from Memphis, Tennessee, and stated the name is not available. He stated his records reflect this passenger listed two bags, not further identified.

Mr. WATSON advised that he does not recall seeing any particular person arriving at the Oxford Airport but stated he has since been contacted by ROBERT EARL DAVIS who questioned him concerning the identity of a passenger who arrived on the morning flight of April 8, 1968. Mr. WATSON advised that the identity of this passenger might be obtained through the Southern Airways ticket office in Memphis.

He advised that the particular flight in question, No. 781, would have departed Memphis at 10:10 a.m. and arrived in Oxford, Mississippi, at 10:33 a.m. on April 8, 1968.

Mr. WATSON also advised he had discussed this matter with other employees at the airport and none of them could recall this person mentioned by DAVIS.

On 4/14/68 at Oxford, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA ROBIN O. COTTEN /blw Date dictated 4/15/68

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JN 157-9586

PHC:mah

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA PETER H. CROOKS:

On April 15, 1968, DONALD EDWARD KINNISON,
1129 Mantoe Street, Pascagoula, Mississippi, came to
the Gulfport Resident Agency. KINNISON provided
the following background information:

Date of Birth

Place of Birth

Parents

Employment

[REDACTED]
Donaldson, Louisiana

Mr. and Mrs. H. R. KINNISON

Natchez, Mississippi

Electrical Engineer writing

Tests at Ingalls Shipyard

Extension 349

[REDACTED]

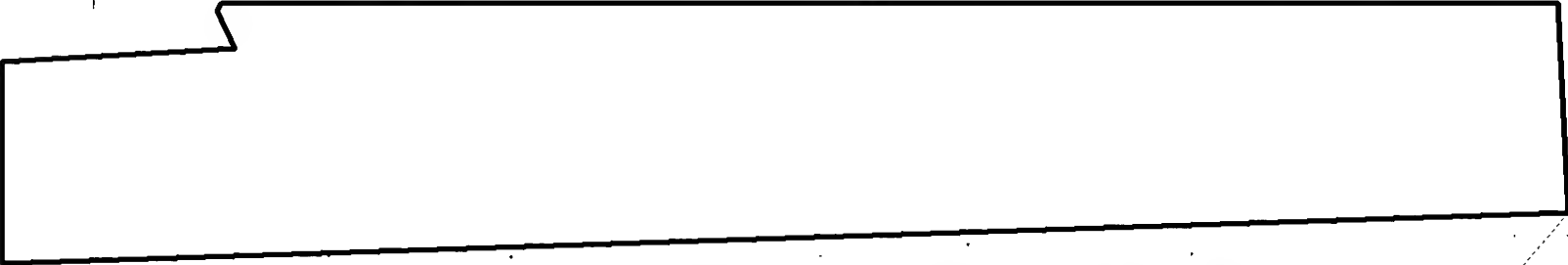
He advised that he has no direct information in
connection with the death of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. He
stated that he believes an individual who drives a
white Cadillac with Harrison County license plate GD2434
whom he described as a white male, height 5' 8", build
paunchy, age 40, bald on top, is currently controlling
his actions by influencing his friends and working
associates. He stated that he believes this individual
is following him and he believes he has seen this
baldheaded man disguised with a gray wig. He advised
that he has a friend by the name of Mr. RICHARD PLACE
in Natchez, Mississippi, and on one prior occasion he
has been traveling from Pascagoula, Mississippi, in

JN 157-9586

2

order to consult with this friend regarding "those individuals" who were out to get him. He advised that these individuals put mud on the road at that time and caused him to run off into the ditch. When requested to identify who those individuals or as he constantly referred to them as "they" were he stated that he did not know but believed that it might be the individual who drives a white Cadillac.

He stated that he felt if this individual in the white Cadillac was able to control his actions he might, therefore, have controlled the actions of an individual and caused him to shoot Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING.



On April 17, 1968, Mrs. MADELYN ROGERS, Clerk, Harrison County License Bureau, Gulfport, Miss., advised that license GD 2434 issued to Mr. EUGENE O. ADAM for use on a 1959 Cadillac.

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

JN 157-9586

JGW:ccs

1

HOWARD LA CROIX

Mr. LAMAR T. LOE, President, Lamar T. Loe Motor Company, Incorporated, Vicksburg, Mississippi, advised SA JACK G. WILSON on April 17, 1968, that HOWARD LA CROIX is no longer employed by his concern, having left the organization approximately two months ago. LA CROIX left in a Thunderbird automobile belonging to the Loe Motor Company, about a 1958 model, cream in color. Mr. LOE learned from GLEN KIRKLAND, General Motors Acceptance Corporation (GMAC) representative, Jackson, Mississippi, telephone 354-5331, that the missing automobile had been located by GMAC representatives stored in a garage in Memphis, Tennessee. The details were unknown to Mr. LOE as he was not interested in repossessing the car because storage costs exceeded its potential value.

Mr. LOE stated that records were not immediately available concerning HOWARD LA CROIX, but he did find a notation which indicated LA CROIX's father is W. O. LA CROIX, 1689 Germantown Road, Germantown, Tennessee. LA CROIX's father-in-law is C. O. WRIGHT, 1643 Riverdale Road, possibly also located in Germantown, Tennessee.

Mr. LOE will obtain and make available on April 18, 1968, additional background concerning HOWARD LA CROIX.

JN 157-9586

JLP:bal

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HOWARD LA CROIX

The following investigation was conducted by
SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER, at Jackson, Mississippi, on
April 18, 1968:

Mr. GLEN KIRKLAND, General Motors Acceptance Corporation (GMAC), 427 North State Street, Jackson, Mississippi, advised that GMAC did recover a 1958 Ford Thunderbird automobile, cream in color, the property of the Lamar T. Loe Motor Company of Vicksburg, Mississippi. This vehicle was recovered in Memphis, Tennessee.

Mr. KIRKLAND stated that the only additional information his file discloses in this matter concerns the fact that the vehicle was recovered by GMAC representatives at Memphis, Tennessee, and that the vehicle was allegedly driven from Vicksburg, Mississippi, to Memphis, Tennessee, by HOWARD LA CROIX, a former employee of Lamar T. Loe Motor Company, and abandoned in Memphis.

Mr. KIRKLAND said his file reflects HOWARD LA CROIX presently resides at 1829 Germantown Road, Memphis, Tennessee, and that he is employed by the Charlie Kittle Pontiac Agency, 2563 Summer Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee.

JN 157-9586

BRD:ccs

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The following investigation was conducted by
SA BURTEN R. DE ZARN at Vicksburg, Mississippi, on April 18,
1968:

LAMAR T. LOE, JR., Lamar T. Loe Motor Company,
Highway 80 West, advised that HOWARD LOYAL LAACROIX had
been employed at Lamar T. Loe Motor Company as an assistant
parts manager from June 9, 1967, to December 28, 1967. LA
CROIX's record indicated that he had previously been employed
for about three years at Kittle Pontiac, Memphis, Tennessee.

On July 11, 1967, while employed at Lamar T. Loe
Motor Company, LA CROIX had purchased a 1962 Thunderbird
hardtop which was to be purchased through General Motors
Acceptance Corporation (GMAC) in Jackson, Mississippi. Mr.
LOE had been the co-signer in the transaction. Upon LA
CROIX's departure from Vicksburg and the employ of Mr. LOE,
LA CROIX had made no further payments to GMAC on the vehicle.
Inasmuch as Mr. LOE had been the co-signer in the transaction,
he had been required to continue these payments. Mr. LOE
advised that he had also received several calls from various
merchants in the Vicksburg, Mississippi, area concerning
insufficient funds checks which LA CROIX had cashed with them.
Mr. LOE stated that he would not attempt to repossess the
vehicle inasmuch as the expense of paying the repair bill
to the garage in Memphis, Tennessee, and subsequently
transporting the vehicle back to Vicksburg, Mississippi,
would probably be more than the car was worth.

Mr. LOE stated that his dealings with LA CROIX
had been on an employer-employee basis, and he had no idea
what LA CROIX's dealings were with regard to racial matters.
Mr. LOE was exhibited photographs of the two composite
drawings based on descriptions from individuals in Birmingham,
Alabama, and Memphis, Tennessee, and advised that neither
picture resembled LA CROIX.

14

JN 157-9586

JLP:bal

1

INEZ COWART GALT

On April 19, 1968, Security Supervisor GARRISON, Baltimore Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation, telephonically furnished the following employment information concerning INEZ COWART GALT:

Social Security Number

YEAR

PLACE EMPLOYED

1945

No employment listed
after March, 1945

1945 (March)

B. Hughes Tool Company,
Houston, Texas

1944

Pennsylvania Ship Building,
Incorporated,
Beaumont, Texas

1944

Ingall's,
Birmingham, Alabama
(Mississippi)

1943

V. Fox Company,
San Antonio, Texas

1943 (September)

Hon-ond Foods,
San Antonio, Texas

1943 (June to September)

Henke-Pillot, Incorporated,
Houston, Texas

JN 157-9586

2

YEAR

PLACE EMPLOYED

1943

W. T. Grant Company,
New York, New York
(This is headquarters for
this company, place of
employment not listed)

1942

Hoffman Apparel and
Dick's Gift Shop,
Camden, New Jersey

1942

Normoyle Officers Mess
San Antonio, Texas

1942 (September)

Sommers Drugs,
San Antonio, Texas

1942

Marvin Drugs,
Chicago, Illinois (Texas)
(Employed in Texas)

1941 (December)

Kaufmann's, Incorporated,
San Antonio, Texas

1941

C. A. MC ADEN, The
Chicken Shack,
Austin, Texas

1941 (December)

J. O. ELLIOTT,
San Antonio, Texas

1941 (December)

Leo's Place,
San Antonio, Texas

JN 157-9586

3

Date of birth listed as October 15, 1916,
Ezadale, Texas. Parents listed as SARAH PAYNE and JOE
COWART. Full name listed as INEZ COWART RUSSELL GALT.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/23/68

On April 22, 1968, EVERETT GAULT, Route 1, Meridian, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent. GAULT advised that he and his wife are presently separated, and that he has a family consisting of eleven children. He stated none of these children have the name ERIC STARVO GALT, and pointed out that his last name is spelled GAULT and not GALT. EVERETT GAULT observed photographs of ERIC STARVO GALT and advised that he had never seen this individual and that this person is definitely not a member of his family, or a relation thereof. He stated that he has a brother by the name of CURTIS HOPE GAULT, and his last known address was Pioneer, Louisiana. EVERETT GAULT stated that his brother, CURTIS GAULT, was employed by the Ford Bacon and Davis Construction Company, Monroe, Louisiana. He stated he has not been in contact with his brother for some period of time, and is not sure of his present whereabouts.

He also commented that MALCOLM A. GAULT and EZRA GAULT are both brothers of his. EVERETT GAULT stated he could furnish no information concerning any one who resembles the person in the photograph identified as ERIC STARVO GALT. EVERETT GAULT advised his brother, CURTIS HOPE GAULT, is not identical with ERIC STARVO GALT.

The following physical description was obtained from observation and interview:

Name: EVERETT GAULT

On 4/22/68 at Meridian, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JOHN H. PROCTOR, JR./bjk Date dictated 4/23/68

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JN 157-9586

Sex: Male
Race: White
Height: 5' 7"
Weight: 175 pounds
Eyes: Dark (wears glasses)
Age: 58
Hair: Brown, greying
Build: Medium
Occupation: Engineer, GM&O Railroad
Residence: Route 1, Meridian,
Mississippi
Marital status: Married (wife and 11 children)
Brothers: CURTIS HOPE GAULT, residence
unknown;

MALCOLM A. GAULT, residence
unknown;

EZRA GAULT, residence
unknown

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/8/68

Mr. WALTER KOONCE, manager, Southern Greyhound Terminal, Clarksdale, Mississippi, furnished the following information:

He called the Downtowner Motor Inn in Clarksdale on the night of April 4, 1968, to determine if rooms were available, since buses bound for Memphis, Tennessee, were not being allowed to enter the city of Memphis due to the civil disorder there following the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING. He stated that a bus from Vicksburg, Mississippi, which came through Greenville, Mississippi, arrived at Clarksdale on time -- 9:41 PM. The bus did not proceed to Memphis.

One passenger, a white male, 45 to 50 years old, about six feet tall, 175 pounds, dark hair, with receding hairline, slightly protruding front teeth, attired in sports shirt and slacks, was upset, because he was supposed to meet a boat in Memphis, Tennessee. This individual, name unknown, made a remark to the effect that MARTIN LUTHER KING "got what was coming to him," a remark which Mr. KOONCE stated he recalled because it was not appropriate for the time it was made.

Mr. KOONCE stated that the driver of the bus on which the above passenger arrived was Mr. HOOKER, who lives in Memphis, Tennessee.

On 4/8/68 at Clarksdale, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA HAROLD LEO FABRIZ:mif Date dictated 4/8/68

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UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 4-29-68

FROM : SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On April 11, 1968, Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN telephonically advised that he did not desire that any negative type investigation, which eliminates local Jackson suspects, be sent to Memphis. He advised that negative type information should be indexed and filed at Jackson rather than be furnished to Memphis.

The attached concerns investigation of James M. Stanford whose identity was furnished as a result of IBM Computer Search of registered owners, BMV, Jackson, Miss., with the date of birth, 7/20/31.

1 - Jackson
JLP/brh
(1)

*cc 0
marked for [unclear]*

157-9586-433

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	



5010-106-01

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

JN 157-9586

CWH:bal

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA CHARLES W. HARVEY:

AT CARROLLTON, MISSISSIPPI

On April 19, 1968, GERALD JOHNSON, Deputy Sheriff, Carroll County Sheriff's Department, advised that he personally knows JAMES M. STANFORD. He stated that STANFORD has never been arrested, is married and has two children, and is a well respected and longtime member of the community. Deputy JOHNSON further stated that STANFORD is a white male, approximately 36 years of age, and is employed as a farmer in addition to operating his own nursery business.

Deputy JOHNSON made available vehicle registration records, which reflected that STANFORD is the owner of a 1964 Pontiac, bearing 1968 Mississippi tag number 8-1370. The registration records listed STANFORD's address as Rural Route 3, Carrollton, Mississippi.

Deputy JOHNSON also stated that he does not believe that STANFORD has recently left the Carrollton, Mississippi, area.

AT GREENWOOD, MISSISSIPPI

On April 19, 1968, Mrs. MARY LOUISE DIAMOND, Clerk, Greenwood Credit Bureau, made available records concerning one JAMES M. STANFORD. The records reflected that STANFORD is employed by his father and is also self-employed. The records listed STANFORD's age as 28 in 1966.

JN 26-4414

2

It is noted that the above described individual was the only JAMES M. STANFORD in the records of the Credit Bureau who possibly could be identical with the JAMES M. STANFORD whose date of birth is July 20, 1931.

On April 19, 1968, Lieutenant JOSEPH HILL, Identification Officer, Greenwood Police Department, stated that a search of his department's records failed to reveal any record concerning JAMES M. STANFORD.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

FROM : SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4-24-68

On April 11, 1968, Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN telephonically advised that he did not desire that any negative type investigation, which eliminates local Jackson suspects, be sent to Memphis. He advised that negative type information should be indexed and filed at Jackson rather than be furnished to Memphis.

Investigation re elimination of Marion Jackson England Jr.

1 - Jackson
JLP/brh
(1)

cco marked for indexing

157-9586-432

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	



5010-103-01

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

HOMER DENTON, Night Auditor, Holiday Inn, Highway 72, West, Iuka, Mississippi, advised that his records reflect a M. J. ENGLAND registered at the motel at 2:56 P.M., on April 9, 1968, and was assigned Room 232. Mr. DENTON stated that the motel registration records reflect that ENGLAND was driving a Buick, Texas license TWW235 and listed his name as M. JACK ENGLAND, 2616 Ryan Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas, employed, Westward Company. Mr. DENTON further stated his records reflect that a call was made from Room 232 to area code 901-234-0778 at 7:48 P.M. on April 9, 1968.

Mr. DENTON further stated that the reservation in the Holiday Inn, Corinth, Mississippi, was made from a Holiday Inn, Decatur, Illinois.

On 4/10/68 at Corinth, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

SA FRANCIS G. HONAN
by SA JOHN S. CASTLES/FGH/bjk Date dictated 4/11/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

MARION JACKSON ENGLAND, JR., after being advised of the nature of the inquiry, and the identity of the interviewing Agents, was interviewed in Room 232, Holiday Inn, Highway 72, West, Corinth, Mississippi, at which time he stated that he checked into the Holiday Inn, Corinth, Mississippi, approximately 3:00 P.M. on the afternoon of April 9, 1968. He advised that he is employed as a salesman by the Westward Company, Appliance Parts Manufacturer, 7400 St. Aubin Avenue, Detroit, Michigan.

Concerning his whereabouts on April 4, 1968, Mr. ENGLAND stated that on April 3, 1968, he stayed at the Stonewall Jackson Motel, Highway 80, West, Jackson, Mississippi, and while in Jackson, Mississippi, called on a Mr. BRUCE COLEMAN, who is the Manager of Appliance Parts Company, Jackson, Mississippi. He stated that he stayed in Jackson, Mississippi, over the evening of April 3, 1968, and on the early morning of April 4, 1968, left Jackson, Mississippi, and drove to Mobile, Alabama, where he stayed at the Travel Lodge Motel, located on Government Street. He advised that he stayed at the Travel Lodge Motel the evening of April 4, and April 5, 1968. Mr. ENGLAND stated he arrived in Mobile, Alabama, around lunchtime on the fourth of April, and had lunch with a JAMES HYBART, who is the owner of Appliance Parts and Supply Company, 805 Church Street, Mobile, Alabama. He stated that he had lunch at Wentzel's Seafood Restaurant, Mobile, Alabama. Mr. ENGLAND also stated that he saw FRED HYBART, on the afternoon of April 4, 1968, and further stated that he did not check

On 4/10/68 at Corinth, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA FRANCIS G. HONAN
SA JOHN S. CASTLES/FGH/bjk Date dictated 4/11/68

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JN 157-9586

into the Travel Lodge Motel until approximately 3:00 P.M., on April 4, 1968. He stated that he had dinner at approximately 5:00 P.M., at the Morrison's Cafeteria, Mobile, Alabama. Mr. ENGLAND further stated that due to severe sinus headaches that he has, he stayed in the motel all evening in Mobile, Alabama.

Mr. ENGLAND denied being in Memphis, Tennessee, on the evening of April 4, 1968. He further stated that he recalls on the evening of April 4, 1968, making a collect telephone call to his wife in Fort Worth, Texas, at approximately 8:00 P.M. He stated his home telephone number in Fort Worth, Texas is area code 817-Walnut 3-3688. ENGLAND stated that he drives a 1967 white Buick Le Sabre with Texas license TWW235.

The following description of ENGLAND was obtained from interview and observation:

Name:	MARION JACKSON ENGLAND, JR.
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Born:	July 27, 1927
Place of birth:	Fort Worth, Texas
Height:	6' 1"
Weight:	175 pounds
Hair:	Brown
Eyes:	Blue
Marital status:	Married
Wife:	ERNESTINE FRANCES ENGLAND
Residence:	2616 Ryan Avenue, Fort Worth, Texas
Employment:	Salesman, The Westward Company, 7400 St. Aubin Avenue, Detroit, Michigan

JN 157-9586

Military service: U. S. Navy, 1945
Serial number: Unknown
Driver's license: Texas Department of
Public Safety, license
number 0523707, expires
December 15, 1968

Selective service
number: 41-113-27-315
Registered: Local Board 113, Fort
Worth, Texas
Classification: 5A (September 11, 1962)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 4-29-68

FROM : SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On April 11, 1968, Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN telephonically advised that he did not desire that any negative type investigation, which eliminates local Jackson suspects, be sent to Memphis. He advised that negative type information should be indexed and filed at Jackson rather than be furnished to Memphis.

Investigation re - Ben Lynn Hart.

1 - Jackson
JLP/brh
(1)

CCO marked for Indexing

157-9586-431

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	



5010-103-01

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

JN 157-9586

JRP:bal

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA JERRY R. PARKER at Canton, Mississippi:

Following a telephone call from SA THOMPSON BERRY WEBB, on April 6, 1968, [FOIA(b)7 - (D)] was telephonically contacted at Canton, Mississippi, and advised he knew a BEN HART. Source advised HART was a good-for-nothing, who lived off his father who is a successful farmer in the Canton, Mississippi area. Source advised the father's name was GORDON HART and that his son, BEN HART, was constantly running around all night chasing women and had lost an automobile parts store his father set him up with in Texas. Source advised that BEN HART is a divorcee, having lost his wife while he was in Texas.

On April 7, 1968, Sheriff BILLY NOBLE, Canton, Mississippi, advised that BEN HART was now living in an apartment in the 200 block of East Peace Street, in Canton, Mississippi. NOBLE advised that HART is a very big talker, but probably does not have nerve enough to do anything of a violent nature.

MAUDE ETHEL HART, mother of BEN HART, was contacted at her farm home, Route 2, Canton, Mississippi, on April 7, 1968, and advised she did not know where her son was, and he possibly would be back at home around 12 Noon.

The remainder of the day of April 7, 1968, was spent in Canton, Mississippi, attempting to locate BEN HART, or his parents, with negative results.

At approximately 8:00 P.M., April 7, 1968, after a telephone call to GORDON HART, BEN HART's father, BEN HART appeared at the Canton Police Department with his attorney, W. S. CAIN.

The interviewing Agent advised CAIN that he was attempting to determine the whereabouts of BEN HART between 5:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M., on Thursday, April 4, 1968, and if the attorney consented to the interviewing Agent discussing this matter with HART, the attorney would have to sit by and not interrupt.

At this point, CAIN advised HART to "Lynn tell them what they want to know."

HART advised that Thursday, April 4, 1968, he worked on his father's farm in the afternoon and went home sometime in the late afternoon. HART advised there was a possibility he might have stopped with a SNOOKY RAY and Mr. JAMES at a local restaurant, but he could not be sure about this. HART advised he was at his apartment at 213 East Peace Street, watching the television program "Cimarron Strip" when the television announced that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., had been shot.

HART advised he then called out to his parents' home and asked them if they had heard the announcement on television. HART advised that he stayed at his apartment until between 9:00 and 9:15 P.M., and then went to the Ranch Restaurant in Canton, Mississippi, and stayed there until approximately 10:00 P.M. HART advised he then went home to his apartment and retired to bed for the evening.

On April 7, 1968, Sheriff NOBLE telephoned SA PARKER at home and advised him that HART had been making statements around town "that super nigger had been shot." NOBLE advised that HART runs around all night and does not work. NOBLE advised that HART hangs out a good deal at the Gas Light Club and the Hat and Cane Club in Jackson, Mississippi. NOBLE advised that HART has been seen in the company of a DOT TATE, who lives on Kathy Circle, Canton, Mississippi, and a SUE HARDY, who formerly worked at one of the above places.

On April 8, 1968, AFTON BOLDING, 213 Dinkins Street, and Manager of the Ranch Restaurant, Canton, Mississippi, advised that he was sure that BEN HART was in his restaurant between 5:00 P.M. and 5:30 P.M., on Thursday, April 4, 1968. BOLDING advised that HART left, returning approximately at 7:30 P.M., and stayed at the restaurant until 9:00 P.M. BOLDING advised he was sure of this fact because an EVA HARGIN was there on Thursday and paid for the coffee for everyone.

On April 8, 1968, EVA H. HARGIN, Route 3, Box 183, advised that she was home sick in bed the entire day of Thursday, April 4, 1968, and that the day she was at the Ranch and paid for the coffee was Friday, April 5, 1968.

BOLDING was recontacted and advised of Mrs. HARGIN's statement. BOLDING advised that HART is in and out of his restaurant everyday, and he could not take an oath as to HART being there on Thursday, April 4, 1968. BOLDING advised that HART had discussed the matter with him on the morning of April 8, 1968, concerning HART being in the restaurant on April 4, 1968.

On April 8, 1968, MAUDE ETHEL HART, Route 2, Canton, Mississippi, mother of BEN HART, advised that her son was at her home for breakfast at approximately 9:00 A.M., on April 4, 1968, and that she appeared at his apartment in Canton, Mississippi, at approximately 1:00 P.M., on April 4, 1968, and her son was in bed reading at the time. Mrs. HART advised that at approximately 6:30 to 7:00 P.M., which is usually supper time at her home, her son telephoned her locally and asked if they had heard the announcement that MARTIN LUTHER KING had been shot. Mrs. HART advised that she was sure the call was local, and when asked how she was sure the call was local, she said, "I just know it was a local call."

On April 8, 1968, ETHEL RINGS, 213 East Peace Street, Canton, Mississippi, advised that she is the landlady of BEN HART, and that she is fairly certain that HART was at his apartment on Thursday, April 4, 1968. RINGS advised that she thinks she remembers seeing him on Thursday afternoon, but she is not sure about Thursday evening. RINGS advised that she sees HART everyday because he sleeps late in the morning and usually goes out around 9:00 P.M. at night, when RINGS is going to bed. RINGS advised that she is sure that HART was there on Thursday, because, since she sees him everyday, she would remember him not being present on one particular day.

On April 8, 1968, BETTY HART WATKINS, 207 East Peace Street, Canton, Mississippi, advised that BEN HART is her cousin and that she sees him every morning as he is leaving, probably to go to his mother's for breakfast. WATKINS advised that she is sure that HART was there on Thursday, April 4, 1968, because she sees him every morning and it would have stuck in her mind if she had not seen him on a particular morning.

JN 157-9586

5

The following persons were contacted in the neighborhood of BEN HART's residence, and could provide no information as to the identity of HART or his whereabouts on April 4, 1968:

ANNE FANT DAVIS
201 East Peace Street

Reverend MORRIS A. TAYLOR
210 East Peace Street

Observation of the neighborhood was that 225 East Peace Street is the Sacred Heart Parish Center; 226 East Peace Street is Canton City Hall; 231 East Peace Street is a vacant house; and 202 East Peace Street is the First Presbyterian Church.

BEN HART was observed to own a 1966 Oldsmobile, all gold in color, 1968 Mississippi registration 45D-724. GORDON HART was observed to be driving a 1967 white over gold Pontiac, 1968 Mississippi registration 45-5010.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date 4/8/68

BEN LYNN HART appeared at the Canton Police Department with his attorney, W. S. CAIN.

CAIN was advised by the interviewing Agents that they wished to question HART concerning his whereabouts on Thursday, April 4, 1968, and that for the interviewing Agents to effect this interview, HART would have to be questioned without CAIN's interruption.

CAIN advised he had no objection to HART being questioned and said, "LYNN tell them what they want to know."

HART advised on Thursday, April 4, 1968, he remembered being on his father's farm working in the afternoon.

HART advised he might have had coffee with a SNOOKY RAY and a Mr. JAMES later in the afternoon, but he could not be sure about this. HART advised that he was home at his apartment at 213 East Peace Street watching the television program "Cimarron Strip" when the television announced the shooting of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. HART advised he then telephoned his parents' home to determine if they had heard the announcement.

HART advised he left his apartment at approximately 9:00 to 9:15 P.M., and went to the Ranch Restaurant, Canton, Mississippi, returning home at approximately 10:00 P.M., where he retired for the evening.

The interviewing Agents asked HART if there was anyone who could physically account for his presence between 5:00 P.M. and 7:00 P.M., on Thursday, April 4, 1968, and HART advised that he could think of no one

On 4/7/68 at Canton, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JERRY R. PARKER and
SA ANTHONY E. DANIELS:JRP:bal Date dictated 4/9/68

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who was in his presence at that time who could vouch for his whereabouts.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	BEN LYNN HART
Address	213 East Peace Street Canton, Mississippi
Race	White
Sex	Male
Height	5 feet, 10 inches
Weight	160-170 pounds
Hair	Black
Eyes	Hazel
Date of Birth	February 4, 1935
Place of Birth	Canton, Mississippi
Military	None
Occupation	Farms - self-employed
Marital status	Divorcee
Children	One
Wife resides in	Humble, Texas
Mother	MAUDE ETHEL HART
Father	GORDON HART
Parents reside in	Canton, Mississippi

At this point, Attorney CAIN stated that he could assure the interviewing Agents that HART was not of the caliber to do such a thing. SA JERRY R. PARKER advised CAIN that the interviewing Agents do not investigate calibers, but only carry out their job.

CAIN advised at this point that he understood that the Federal Bureau of Investigation was just doing their job, and rose and left with HART.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/9/68

BETTY HART WATKINS, 207 East Peace Street, advised that BEN HART is her cousin.

WATKINS advised that she sees HART every morning as he leaves, probably to go to his mother's to have breakfast.

WATKINS advised that since she does see her cousin every morning, it would stick in her mind if for some reason she did not see him on a particular day.

WATKINS advised that she was sure, therefore, that her cousin, BEN HART, was at his apartment on Thursday, April 4, 1968.

WATKINS advised she could not pinpoint HART being at his apartment during the afternoon or the evening of April 4, 1968.

On 4/8/68 at Canton, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA JERRY R. PARKER and
SA PETER J. RYAN:JRP:bal Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/9/68

MAUDE ETHEL HART, Route 2, Canton, Mississippi, advised that her son, BEN HART, was at her home for breakfast at approximately 9:00 A.M., on April 4, 1968.

HART advised that she went to her son's apartment at approximately 1:00 P.M., on Thursday, April 4, 1968, and took her son soup, and that her son was in bed reading at the time.

HART advised that at approximately 6:30 P.M. to 7:00 P.M., on Thursday, April 4, 1968, her son telephoned her and asked her if she had heard the newscast of MARTIN LUTHER KING being shot.

HART advised the telephone call from her son was local, and when asked how she knew it was a local call she simply stated that it had to be a local call.

On 4/8/68 at Canton, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JERRY R. PARKER and
SA PETER J. RYAN:JRP:bal Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/9/68

EVA H. HARGIN, Route 3, Box 183, Canton, Mississippi, advised that she was home sick in bed all day, Thursday, April 4, 1968, and did not get out of bed until Friday morning, April 5, 1968.

HARGIN advised she was in the Ranch Restaurant purchasing coffee for everyone on Friday, April 5, 1968, at approximately 4:30 to 5:30 P.M.

On 4/8/68 at Canton, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA JERRY R. PARKER and
SA PETER J. RYAN:JRP:ba1 Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/9/68

AFTON BOLDING, 213 Dinkins Street, and Manager of the Ranch Restaurant, advised that BEN HART is a good customer of his, and that BOLDING is sure that HART was at the restaurant on Thursday, April 4, 1968.

BOLDING advised that HART was there at approximately 5:00 to 5:30 P.M., and again approximately from 7:30 P.M. to 9:00 P.M. BOLDING advised this date sticks in his mind because EVA HARGIN was at the restaurant paying for everyone's coffee.

BOLDING was contacted later on the same day and advised that HARGIN had told the interviewing Agents she was at home sick in bed all day, Thursday, April 4, 1968, and bought the coffee at the restaurant on Friday, April 5, 1968.

BOLDING advised he would not take an oath whether HART was at the restaurant on Thursday, April 4, 1968. BOLDING advised that HART is in and out everyday, but BOLDING advised he could not swear to HART's being present on Thursday, April 4, 1968. BOLDING advised that HART had discussed the matter with him (BOLDING) the morning of April 8, 1968, concerning whether HART was in the restaurant on April 4, 1968.

On 4/8/68 at Canton, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA JERRY R. PARKER and
SA PETER J. RYAN:JRP:bal Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1Date 4/9/68

ETHEL RINGS, 213 East Peace Street, advised she is the landlady of BEN HART.

RINGS advised that HART is a good tenant and is very quiet when he comes and goes and has caused her no problems. RINGS advised she is sure she saw HART sometime on Thursday, April 4, 1968. RINGS advised it was in the afternoon that she was sure she saw him, but she is unsure about the evening.

RINGS advised she sees him everyday and it would be very unusual not seeing him sometime during the day, and she would definitely remember not seeing him. RINGS advised that as an example of this, HART was gone all day Saturday, April 6, 1968, and she remembered not seeing him that day.

RINGS advised that HART usually goes out around 9:00 P.M. in the evening, as RINGS is usually going to bed, and RINGS does not know when he returns.

On 4/8/68 at Canton, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JERRY R. PARKER and
SA PETER J. RYAN:IRP:hal Date dictated 4/9/68

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13

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

FROM : SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4-29-68

On April 11, 1968, Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN telephonically advised that he did not desire that any negative type investigation, which eliminates local Jackson suspects, be sent to Memphis. He advised that negative type information should be indexed and filed at Jackson rather than be furnished to Memphis.

The attached concerns information furnished by Robert Duwall Rogers on 4/17/68. A teletype was sent to Mobile based on information furnished by Rogers, (see In tlt to Mobile, 4-17-68).

1 - Jackson
JLP/brh
(1)

CCD member for Indefinite

157-9586-430

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	



5010-104-01

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1

Date April 17, 1968

ROBERT DUVALL ROGERS, 510 Spanish Main, Spanish Fort, Alabama, telephone Mobile, Alabama, 433-1307, telephonically contacted the Meridian Resident Agency of the FBI saying that he would like to meet an Agent at the Travel Inn Motel Restaurant, Tom Bailey Drive, Meridian, Mississippi, to relate some information concerning the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING. Agents met ROGERS as requested, at which time he related the following information:

ROGERS stated that at about 2:00 p.m., on April 8, 1968, he left Spanish Fort, Alabama, en route to Morton, Mississippi, to visit relatives. He said that he traveled through Saraland to Citronelle, Alabama, and as he started to turn right on U. S. Highway 45 at the Rosa A. Lott Negro school at the Petroleum Club on Highway 45, he noticed a light blue or light green 1963 Rambler automobile traveling north on Highway 45. ROGERS said that he pulled in behind that Rambler automobile, at which time the driver sped off at an extremely high rate of speed (about 90 miles per hour). He related that he increased his speed to catch up with the Rambler automobile and followed that car on through Citronelle to a point about 11 miles north of Citronelle. ROGERS stated that the Rambler automobile then turned East on a dirt road about 150 yards south of the intersection of Highway 17 with U. S. 45. He said that he recalls having seen a highway sign near that dirt road which sign read "Mobile 43 miles". ROGERS stated that after seeing the Rambler turn on the dirt road, he turned around at the intersection of Highway 17 and went back to the dirt road where he observed the Rambler going east on the dirt road at a high rate of speed. ROGERS said that he thought that the car might have been going to a residence on that road. He said that the Rambler bore an unknown Georgia license plate.

On 4/17/68 at Meridian, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA'S RICHARD L. BROCK and
JOHN B. RUCKER, JR: JBR/cmb Date dictated 4/17/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

JN 157-9586

2

ROGERS advised that just prior to his leaving Spanish Fort, Alabama, on the above-mentioned trip, he had observed a sketch of the suspect killer of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., in a Mobile, Alabama, newspaper and immediately felt that the driver of the above-described Rambler automobile closely resembled that sketch. He said that the driver of that car was about 35 years of age, had brown or black hair, with a receding hairline and had a thin face. He said that he noticed dark colored clothing hanging in the back seat of that Rambler automobile.

2

3

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

FROM : SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4-29-68

On April 11, 1968, Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN telephonically advised that he did not desire that any negative type investigation, which eliminates local Jackson suspects, be sent to Memphis. He advised that negative type information should be indexed and filed at Jackson rather than be furnished to Memphis.

1 - Jackson
JLP/brh
(1)

*CCO The attached has been
marked for indexing*

157-9586-429

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	



5010-108-01

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

JN 157-9586

JFB/bdb

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The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES F. BODMAN, JR., at Greenwood, Mississippi:

On April 10, 1968, BONNIE HODGES, Secretary, Greenwood Utilities Company, advised that they have no record of a JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER, or a ERIC STARVO GALT residing in the Greenwood area.

On April 18, 1968, CHRISTINE CHANDLER, Circuit Clerk, Leflore County, advised that the voting records from December of 1952 to the present date are negative regarding the above names. Mrs. CHANDLER advised that a review of the Circuit Court Criminal Docket Records, Leflore County, from November, 1946, to present date are negative regarding the above names.

JN 157-9586

RTR/brh

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The following investigation was conducted
by SA RICHARD T. RABIDEAU on April 10, 1968:

AT HOLLY SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI

PATRICIA PHILLIPS, Deputy Circuit Clerk,
Marshall County, advised that the names JOHN WILLARD
and HARVEY LOWMEYER were unidentifiable in the
Voter Registration records for that county.

Deputy Sheriff RAY BRIGHT, Marshall County
Sheriff's Office, advised that names JOHN WILLARD
and HARVEY LOWMEYER were unknown to his department.
Deputy Sheriff BRIGHT further advised that the
names WILLARD and LOWMEYER were unidentifiable in
the Automobile Registration records of Marshall
County, Mississippi.

Chief of Police HARRY BRYANT, advised
the names JOHN WILLARD and HARVEY LOWMEYER were
unidentifiable to his department.

AT BATESVILLE, MISSISSIPPI

Mrs. IKE SHANKLE, Deputy Circuit Clerk,
Panola County, advised that the names JOHN WILLARD
and HARVEY LOWMEYER were unidentifiable in the Voter
Registration records for Panola County, Mississippi.

MARY DUKE, Clerk, Panola County Sheriff's
Office, advised the names JOHN WILLARD and HARVEY
LOWMEYER were unidentifiable in the Auto Registration
records for Panola County, Mississippi.

Sheriff FORREST TUTTLE, Panola County, advised the names JOHN WILLARD and HARVEY LOWMEYER were unidentifiable to his department.

The following investigation was conducted by SA RICHARD T. RABIDEAU on April 11, 1968:

The following listed airports were physically examined for a white Mustang with negative results:

Bishop Flying Service, Highway 78, Marshall County, Mississippi

Birdsong Airport, Highway 6, West, Panola County, Mississippi

Austin's Flying Service, Sardis Dam Road, Panola County, Mississippi

On April 15, 1968, MARIE SLAYDEN, Clerk, Marshall County Sheriff's Office, Holly Springs, Mississippi, advised SA RICHARD T. RABIDEAU that the name ERIC STARVO GALT was unidentifiable in the Automobile Registration records of Marshall County, Mississippi.

On April 16, 1968, MARY MC CARTER, Clerk, Panola County Sheriff's Office, Sardis, Mississippi, and MARY DUKE, Clerk, Panola County Sheriff's Office, Batesville, Mississippi, advised SA RICHARD T. RABIDEAU that the name ERIC STARVO GALT was unidentifiable in the Automobile Registration records of their respective offices.

JN 157-9586

BWW/pac

1

The following investigation was conducted on
April 12, 1968, by SA BRENT W. WARBERG:

AT AMORY, MISSISSIPPI

The following persons were contacted concerning
any information they may have or records of their agencies
may have concerning ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER,
or JOHN WILLARD. The results of these contacts were negative:

NOBLE GARRETT, Chief of Police,
Amory Police Department;

JOHN B. WRIGHT, Bank of Amory;

Mrs. SHELBY WESTBROOK, Security Bank of Amory;

ALTA CLAYBORNE, Amory Light and Water

A review of the Amory telephone book failed to
reflect any listing for the above captioned individuals.

AT ABERDEEN, MISSISSIPPI

The following persons were contacted relative
to any information their files may contain concerning ERIC
STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, or JOHN WILLARD. The results
of these checks were negative:

DORLOS ROBINSON, Sheriff, Monroe County ;

MYRTLE SHUMBERT, Circuit Clerk,
Monroe County;

MARY HARRISON, Clerk, Local Board 52,
Selective Service System;

ALLEN PICKLE, Monroe Banking and Trust Company;

MARTHA COLE, The First National Bank of
Aberdeen;

DAN ADAMS, Chief of Police, Aberdeen,
Mississippi (who also checked the light and water
records)

AT HOUSTON, MISSISSIPPI

The following persons were contacted on April 15,
1968, relative to any information their files may contain
concerning ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, or JOHN WILLARD.
The results of these checks were negative:

BILL SMITH, Sheriff, Chickasaw County;

HAL ALLEN, Circuit Clerk, Chickasaw County;

ROY DAVIS, Chief of Police, Houston,
Mississippi;

BERTA PEDEN, City Clerk,
Houston, Mississippi

ROBERT C. PEARSON, JR.,
Houston State Bank;

GEORGE TURNER, Bank of Houston;

MARY HICKMAN, Selective Service System

A review of the Houston telephone book and city
directory failed to reflect any mention of the above
captioned individuals.

AT CALHOUN COUNTY, MISSISSIPPI

The following individuals were contacted relative to any information their files may contain concerning ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, or JOHN WILLARD:

W. L. ELLARD, Sheriff, Calhoun County;

BILLY BRYANT, Circuit Clerk,
Calhoun County;

HOWARD CAIN, Chief of Police,
Bruce, Mississippi;

JOY PATTERSON, Clerk,
City of Bruce;

JOHN BELL YOUNG, JR.,
Bank of Bruce;

JIM RAY, Chief of Police,
Calhoun City, Mississippi (who checked light and
water records)

BILLY BETTERTON, Selective Service System

A review of the Telephone directory and city directory at Calhoun County, Mississippi, failed to reflect any information concerning the above captioned individuals.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 4/24/68

FROM : SA JOHN H. PROCTOR

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Jackson memorandum dated 4/11/68.

The following investigation was conducted in an effort to determine any information concerning ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER and JOHN WILLARD.

On 4/12/68, a review of the 1965-67 Meridian City Directory and Telephone Directory was conducted with negative results. On 4/15/68, THOMAS STEVINSON, Credit Bureau, Meridian, Miss., advised that his records contain no information concerning these individuals.

On 4/12/68, L. A. WILLOUGHBY, Identification Officer, Meridian Detective Bureau, advised that his records contain no identifiable information concerning these individuals.

On 4/12/68, Lauderdale County Sheriff ALTON ALLEN, and H. C. SLAY, MHSP, Meridian, advised that their records contain no identifiable information concerning these individuals.

On 4/15/68, JILES PADDY, President, First National Bank, Meridian, ARCHIE MC DONALD, President, Citizens National Bank, Meridian, and A. L. YOUNG, President, Merchants and Farmers Bank, Meridian, all advised that their records contain no identifiable information concerning these individuals.

① - Jackson
JHP/brh
(1) *brh*



SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

JN 157-9586

On 4/16/68 , Mrs. MARGARET MONTGOMERY, Clerk, Lauderdale County Board of Health, Meridian, advised that all birth records presently contained at that location can also be located through the Bureau of Vital Statistics in Jackson, Miss.

On 4/16/68, Mrs. ADELL GRIFFIS, Clerk, Selective Service System, advised that her records contain no identifiable information concerning these individuals.

RAYMOND DAVIS, Lauderdale County Clerk, advised that the voter registration for Lauderdale County contain no identifiable information concerning these individuals.

On 4/12/68, Lauderdale County Sheriff ALTON ALLEN advised that according to his records no license was issued by his department for any individual having the above names.

On 4/16/68, JAMES GARDNER, Meridian City Engineer, advised that no record could be located for any utility issued to any of the above individuals.

Managers of the following motels in the Meridian area were contacted and registrations were checked for pertinent dates concerning the above subjects with negative results:

Holiday Inn No. 1

Virginia Court

Nelva Courts

Valley Motel

Travel Inn

2 9

JN 157-9586

Ramada Inn

Lone Star Motel

Catherine Motel

Holiday Inn No. 2

Triangle Hotel

Meridian Hotel

Lamar Hotel

Terminal Hotel

All confidential informants and sources in the Meridian RA have been contacted re these individuals with negative results.

~~-82-~~

10

JN 157-9586

PAM/cmb

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA PAUL A. MEISSNER, JR.:

On April 11, 1968, Mrs. JOANN RANDOLPH, Civilian Personnel Section, Keesler Air Force Base (AFB), Biloxi, Mississippi, advised SA MEISSNER that a thorough review of her current and closed Civilian Personnel Records failed to reflect that anyone using the name ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, or HARVEY LOWMYER, is now, or has ever been employed as a civilian employee at Keesler AFB, Mississippi.

On April 11, 1968, Mrs. THERESA T. FOUNTAIN, Base Exchange Personnel Office, advised that a review of her current and closed Civilian Employee Files failed to reflect that any individual using the name ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, or HARVEY LOWMYER, is now, or ever was employed by the Branch Exchange at Keesler AFB.

On April 11, 1968, Mrs. BEVERLY WADE, Concessions Personnel Section, advised that a review of her current and closed personnel files fails to reflect that any civilian was ever employed by the Concessions Section of Keesler AFB using the name ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, or HARVEY LOWMYER.

On April 11, 1968, the records of the Base Locator, Keesler AFB, Mississippi, were reviewed; however, no listing for an individual using the name ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, or HARVEY LOWMYER, was determined.

On April 11, 1968, SA EDWARD W. VARNELL, Office of Special Investigations (OSI), Keesler AFB, Biloxi, Mississippi, advised that records on military personnel previously transferred from Keesler AFB, Mississippi, are maintained for a period of only six months by the Base Locator, with the possible exception of the Arrest and Incident File (A & I) maintained by the Air Police, which would indicate whether an individual previously stationed at Keesler had ever come into contact with the Air Police while at Keesler. VARNELL

advised that all other records concerning military personnel are on deposit at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas, with the World Wide Locator. VARNELL stated that Civilian Personnel Records are maintained by the Civilian Personnel Office, the Branch Exchange Personnel Office, and the Concessions Department Personnel Office. VARNELL stated that no permanent record concerning military personnel previously stationed at Keesler is maintained at the Keesler AFB.

On April 11, 1968, Staff Sergeant JOSEPH S. SLADE, Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge of the Investigations Section, advised that a review of the A & I File maintained by the Air Police, in the names ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, and HARVEY LOWMYER, was negative.

On April 11, 1968, JAMES L. PULLEN, Naval Investigative Service, advised that records of military personnel presently assigned at the United States Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi, are maintained by the Base Locator. He advised that records on personnel previously stationed at U. S. Naval Construction Battalion Center, are not retained permanently at this center. A review of the Base Locator files at the U. S. Naval Construction Battalion Center, Gulfport, Mississippi, failed to reveal any listing of the names ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, or HARVEY LOWMYER.

JN 157-9586

JEK:mah

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA JAMES EDWARD KING:

The following individuals were contacted at
their respective agencies in Meridian, Mississippi,
with negative results regarding the names HARVEY
LOWMEYER/LOWMYER, JOHN WILLARD/WILLIARD;

TOM STEPHENSON, Credit Bureau of Meridian,
Meridian, Mississippi;

FRANCES HASTINGS, Clerk, Records, Meridian
Police Department;

MARIE KNOWLES, Clerk, Records, Detective
Bureau, Meridian Police Department.

City directories and telephone directories
for Meridian were checked for the above names with
negative results.

13

JN 157-9586

CVH:pdb

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA CYRUS V. HOAGLUND:

The following records of Walthall County were
checked in an effort to locate information identifiable
with JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER, HARVEY LOWMYER and
ERIC STARVO GALT with negative results:

Voter Registration Records
Marriage Records by Circuit Clerk JOE STINTSON
Divorce Records by Chancery Clerk DENVER KENNEDY
Automobile Registration and Arrest Records by
Sheriff RUSSELL SLATER
Tax Assessor Records by

The following records of Lawrence County were
checked in an effort to locate information identifiable
with JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER, HARVEY LOWMYER and
ERIC STARVO GALT with negative results:

Marriage and Voter Registration Records by
Circuit Clerk LUNN D. TURNER
Divorce Records by Deputy Chancery Clerk
WILMA HICKS
Automobile Registration and Arrest Records by
Sheriff PRESTON DAVIS
Tax Assessor Records by JERE J. THAMES.

The following records of Lincoln County were
checked in an effort to locate information identifiable
with JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER, HARVEY LOWMYER and
ERIC STARVO GALT with negative results:

Marriage and Voter Registration Records by
Circuit Clerk EARL BURNS
Automobile Registration and Arrest Records by
Sheriff COLEMAN LEA

14

JN 157-9586

CVH:pdb

2

Divorce Records by Chancery Clerk CARROLL
CALHOUN

Tax Assessor Records by MABLE LEGGETT

The records of the Brookhaven Credit Bureau were
searched by LOUISE MILLER with negative results in an
effort to develop information identifiable with JOHN
WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER, HARVEY LOWMYER and ERIC STARVO
GALT.

JN 157-4586

RLB/jsk

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA RICHARD L. BROCK:

On April 16, 1968, the following individuals advised they had no knowledge of anyone by the name of HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER and JOHN WILLARD residing in Scott County, Mississippi, or having ever been handled by their agencies:

CLELL HARRELL, Sheriff
Scott County, Mississippi

LAURIS SESSUMS, Chief of Police
Morton, Mississippi

HUBERT HENDERSON, Chief of Police
Forest, Mississippi

Sheriff HARRELL further advised that motor vehicle registration data for Scott County, Mississippi, is listed by tag number only, and is not alphabetized by name.

On April 16, 1968, A. A. MILLS, Local Manager, Mississippi Power Company, Forest, Mississippi, advised his records reveal no subscribers by the name of ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER and JOHN WILLARD.

On April 16, 1968, Mrs. FLORENE RHODES, Owner, Credit Bureau of Scott County, Forest, advised her records reveal no information identifiable with HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER and JOHN WILLARD.

On April 16, 1968, EARL WEBB, Chancery Clerk's Office, Scott County, Mississippi, advised all divorce and marriage records would be available at Jackson, Mississippi.

On April 16, 1968, Mrs. LOVE EPTING, Circuit Clerk, Scott County, Mississippi, advised she does not maintain birth records, but they could be obtained at Jackson, Mississippi.

JN 157-4586

RLB/jsk

2

She further advised a review of voter registration records would require reviewing thousands of names which are not alphabetized. She stated she has personally registered all voters since the first part of 1968, and knows she has registered no one by the name of ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, or HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER. Mrs. EPTING further stated she has been a life-long resident of Scott County and has worked in most all county offices and has never known of anyone residing in Scott County with the above names.

On April 17, 1968, Mr. LAMAR RIGBY, Retired Circuit Clerk, Scott County, Mississippi, advised he has resided in Scott County all of his life and has held the position of circuit clerk for many years and does not recall registering or knowing anyone by the name of ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, or HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER.

A review of the Southern Bell Telephone Directory for Forest, Morton, Lake, and Homewood, Mississippi, concerning ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, and HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER revealed no information identifiable with them.

The following investigation was conducted by SA DANIEL F. BODINE at Macon, Mississippi on 4/17/68:

The following persons were contacted and each advised that based upon a review of their official records and personal knowledge of the population of Noxubee County, Mississippi that they could not supply any positive information indicating that anyone by the name of HARVEY LOWMEYER, ERIC STARVO GALT, or JOHN WILLARD had every had any association in the area:

E. G. "Doc" TAYLOR, Sheriff, Noxubee County Sheriff's Office,

RICHARD ADAMS, Town Marshal, Macon, Mississippi,

HARVEY HUNTER, Owner, Huntre's Motel, Hwy 45, Macon, Miss

NANCY LEGAN, Clerk, Local Board 56, Macon, Mississippi,

W. B. TATE, Vice President, Merchants and Farmers Bank, Macon, Shuqualak and Scooba, Mississippi.

On 4/17/68 J. E. MCDAVID, Clerk, Noxubee County Circuit Court, advised that it would be impossible to accurately review County Birth and Marriage records, but could be more accurately be done through State record maintained in Jackson, Mississippi. MCDAVID advised that there was no record of any of the names in voter registration records for the county.

JN 157-9586

CWW/cmb

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA CHARLES W. WILMORE, JR., on April 18, 1968:

AT CLEVELAND, MISSISSIPPI:

A review of Selective Service records at Local Board #6, Cleveland, Mississippi, revealed no registrants with date of birth July 20, 1931. A review of names of registrants with dates of birth in July and August, 1931, revealed no name resembling ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMYER, or JOHN WILLIARD.

AT ROSEDALE, MISSISSIPPI:

A review of the files of Selective Service Board #7, Rosedale, Mississippi, revealed no registrant with date of birth July 20, 1931. A check of names of registrants with dates of birth in July and August, 1931, revealed no name similar to ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMYER, or JOHN WILLIARD.

19

The following investigation was conducted by
SA PETER H. CROOKS on April 19, 1968:

Mrs. ROSALIE GREENE, Clerk, Selective Service Board #21, Lucedale, Mississippi, advised that their records reflected no one by the name of EARNEST STARVO GALT.

Miss DE LESLYN BICKERSTAFF, Clerk, Selective Service Board #33, 308 Canty Street, advised that their records reflected no one by the name of EARNEST STARVO GALT.

A check of all logical reference works in the Pascagoula, Mississippi, -Moss Point, Mississippi area failed to locate an ERIC STARVO GALT.

H. W. SLATTER, Desk Sergeant, Moss Point Police Department, advised that his records reflect no ERIC GALT and that he himself was unfamiliar with this name. He advised that he would contact friends of his by the name of GALT in the area in an attempt to locate an ERIC GALT.

Mr. F. DYKES, Proprietor, Dykes Barber Shop, Escatawba, Mississippi, advised he knows nearly everyone in the Moss Point area but knows no ERIC GALT.

Mrs. ERIE GALT, Griffin Road, Escatawba, Mississippi, advised that she has lived all her life in the Moss Point area and knows of no one by the name of ERIC GALT.

Mr. MATT COX, Deputy Sheriff, Jackson County Sheriff's Office, advised that their files contained no reference to an ERIC GALT.

Detective J. B. GIBSON, Pascagoula Police Department, Pascagoula, Mississippi, advised that the Pascagoula Police Department files contained no reference to an ERIC GALT.

Miss DORA LYNN, Postmaster, Escatawba, Mississippi advised the name ERIC GALT was not familiar to her.

20

JN 157-9586

2

Mrs. BETTY JEAN KNOWLES, Postmaster, Moss Point, Mississippi Post Office, advised that the name ERIC GALT was not familiar to her.

21

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

FROM : SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4/29/68

On April 11, 1968, Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN telephonically advised that he did not desire that any negative type investigation, which eliminates local Jackson suspects, be sent to Memphis. He advised that negative type information should be indexed and filed at Jackson rather than be furnished to Memphis.

Investigation re - Fred Phillip Thorne.
(see 157-9586-54)

1 - Jackson
JLP/brh
(1)

*cc'd marked for
Indexing*

157-9586-428

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	



5010-108-01

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

CARSIE HALL, President, Jackson Branch, National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), 121 North Farish Street, telephonically contacted the Jackson Office on April 7, 1968 and stated that on EVELYN ROBINS had informed him that she had seen a white male get out of a small white car bearing Shelby County, Tennessee license KN 4264 and go into the Downtowner Motel, Jackson, Mississippi.

According to Mr. HALL Miss ROBINS stated that individual driving this small car resembled the sketch of individual appearing in the newspaper as person who shot MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

On 4/7/68 at JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA BENJAMIN F. GRAVES /jdh Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

MAXINE DELBUOUNO advised she was the night desk clerk for the Downtowner Motel, Jackson, Mississippi. She stated that at about 6:50 PM she registered a man by the name of FRED P. THORNE who was driving a 1968 white Tempest Pontiac with Tennessee license KN 4264.

Mrs. DELBUOUNO stated that her files show that FRED P. THORNE furnished an address of 1580 Channel Street, Memphis, Tennessee and that he was employed by the Underwriters Salvage Company of Memphis, Tennessee. THORNE registered for two nights on April 7 and 8, 1968.

Mrs. DELBUOUNO furnished the following description of FRED P. THORNE:

Name	FRED P. THORNE
Residence	1580 Channel Street Memphis, Tennessee
Height	About 5'10"
Weight	140
Hair	Dark with a bald spot in back of head
Build	Slender
Age	48
Employment	Underwriters Salvage, Memphis, Tennessee

On 4/7/68 at JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA EDGAR L. MARTIN /jdh Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

ARTIS GEESTON advised he was the night bellhop at the Downtowner Motel, Jackson, Mississippi.

He stated that he recalled a man presently registered in Room 719 of the Downtowner coming to the motel in a white Tempest Pontiac with Tennessee license. GEESTON stated that he did not check this individual in, but from his observations believed him to be about 50 years of age, 5'9" tall, 140 pounds and had dark hair which was thin on top of the head.

GEESTON then stated that he could furnish no furnished information concerning this individual.

On 4/7/68 at JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA EDGAR L. MARTIN /jdh Date dictated 4/9/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/9/68

FRED PHILLIP THORNE was contacted at the Downtowner Motel, Jackson, Mississippi, at which time he stated that he is presently employed by the Underwriters Salvage Company, an insurance company at Memphis, Tennessee. He stated the home address of this insurance company was 1580 Channel Street and that he resided at 514 Ross Street, West Memphis, Arkansas.

Mr. THORNE made available an Arkansas driver's license Number 288958 giving his name as FRED PHILLIP THORNE and resides at 514 Ross Street, West Memphis, Arkansas.

Mr. THORNE stated that he was at his home in West Memphis, Arkansas on the night that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. was shot and that he heard the news over his radio in his car as he was going to a restaurant nearby.

Mr. THORNE stated that when he left Memphis on April 7, 1968 his wife jokingly stated that he should not take the company car as the officials of the law enforcement in Tennessee and Mississippi would be looking for a small white car and he would have to be stopped to be checked out.

Mr. THORNE stated he was leaving Jackson on early morning of April 9, 1968 to return to his company in Memphis, but that if he was not located at Memphis they would know his whereabouts at all times.


Mr. THORNE furnished the following description of himself:

Name	FRED PHILLIP THORNE
Date of Birth	2/2/23
Place of Birth	New York City, New York

On 4/7/68 at JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA EDGAR L. MARTIN /jdh Date dictated 4/9/68

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JN 157-9586

Age	45
Height	6'
Weight	135
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Dark brown with some greying (small bald spot in top of head with high protruding hair line)
Wife	MURIEL THORNE
Children	NANCY, Age 20 FRED, JR., age 18
	
Employment	Representative, Underwriters Salvage Company

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

FROM : SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

DATE: 4-29-68

On April 11, 1968, Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN telephonically advised that he did not desire that any negative type investigation, which eliminates local Jackson suspects, be sent to Memphis. He advised that negative type information should be indexed and filed at Jackson rather than be furnished to Memphis.

In view of the above, the attached has been marked for indexing for filing at Jackson.

1 - Jackson
JLP/brh
(1)



5010-108-01

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

157-9586-427

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FOIA(b) (6)
FOIA(b) (7) - (C)Date 4/11/68

J. W. WARREN, Investigator, Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol (MHSP), Holly Springs, Mississippi, furnished the following information to the interviewing Agents:

Investigator WARREN stated that one ROBERT OWEN SHERIDAN of Plain Field, Illinois, was arrested by the Holly Springs, Mississippi, Police Department on April 8, 1968 on a charge of suspicion.

WARREN stated that from the information he obtained SHERIDAN checked into the Holly Inn Motel, located on Highway 78 in Holly Springs, Mississippi on the evening of April 7, 1968. SHERIDAN'S arrest was the result of his, SHERIDAN'S, questionable actions. WARREN explained that SHERIDAN apparently attempted to rent his motel room at the Holly Inn Restaurant to two unknown truck drivers, after he, SHERIDAN, checked into the motel. WARREN explained that it was subsequently determined that SHERIDAN was without any type of funds and was driving a 1966 Cadillac, white over gold in color, bearing 1968 Illinois license HJ167, VIN J6263092.

WARREN stated that he initially interviewed SHERIDAN and determined that he was from Plain Field, Illinois, and was in the interior design business in that city. WARREN stated that he also determined that SHERIDAN had checked into the Rip Van Winkle Motel in Millington, Tennessee on April 4, 1968 and that he reportedly still maintained a room at this motel.

WARREN determined that SHERIDAN was known to the Aurora, Illinois, Police Department, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] WARREN further commented that he telephonically contact RICHARD BONYA of Plain Field, Illinois and determined that SHERIDAN was in fact, the owner of a 1966

On 4/8/68 at HOLLY SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA RICHARD T. RABIDEAU and
SA WILLIAM P. LAWLER, JR. RTR/jdh Date dictated 4/9/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

JN 157-9586

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Cadillac and further, 


WARREN further stated that RICHARD BONYA was immediately leaving Plain Field, Illinois en route to Holly Springs, Mississippi to pick up SHERIDAN and transport him back to Illinois.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)Date 4/11/68

ROBERT OWEN SHERIDAN, 208 Joliet Road, Plain Field, Illinois, was located and interviewed at the Holly Springs, Mississippi, Police Department. SHERIDAN was immediately advised of the identity of the interviewing Agents. Present during the course of interview with SHERIDAN was Mississippi Highway Safety Patrol (MHSP) Investigator, J. W. WARREN, of Holly Springs, Mississippi. SHERIDAN was furnished, by SA RICHARD T. RABIDEAU, a warning and waiver form which he read. SHERIDAN orally indicated that he understood his rights, but he elected not to execute this form.

SHERIDAN stated that he is a partner in the interior design business in Plain Field, Illinois. SHERIDAN stated that the name of the firm is the Rabros and Associates and that his partner is RICHARD ALEX BONYA.

SHERIDAN stated that he departed Plain Field, Illinois on Wednesday, April 3, 1968, driving his 1966 Cadillac. SHERIDAN explained that he departed Illinois en route to Florida for a vacation.

On 4/8/68 at HOLLY SPRINGS, MISSISSIPPI File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA RICHARD T. RABIDEAU and
SA WILLIAM P. LAWLER, JR. RTR/jdh Date dictated 4/9/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

JN 157-9586

2

SHERIDAN stated that [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] that he decided that he needed a rest and a vacation. SHERIDAN stated that he traveled from Plain Field, Illinois on April 3, 1968 and spent that night at the Holiday Inn Motel in Blytheville, Arkansas. He stated that on April 4, 1968, he traveled from Blytheville, Arkansas directly to Millington, Tennessee, where he immediately checked into the Rip Van Winkle Motel. SHERIDAN stated that he still maintains a room at the Tip Van Winkle Motel in Millington, Tennessee and that some of his clothing is still at this motel.

SHERIDAN stated that he went to Millington, Tennessee in order to see one STEVE FRY who is stationed at the Naval Air Base in Millington, Tennessee. SHERIDAN pointed out that STEVE FRY is a former employee of the Rabros and Associates and he, SHERIDAN, was interested in contacting FRY and visiting with him. He stated that he attempted to contact FRY at the Naval Station on Thursday, April 4, 1968, with negative results. He explained that he was unable to contact FRY on the afternoon of April 4, 1968 and that during the evening of April 4, 1968, there was a tornado that struck in the Millington, Tennessee area making it impossible to contact FRY.

He stated that he did, in fact, contact STEVE FRY on the following day, April 5, 1968.

SHERIDAN stated that he remained at the Rip Van Winkle Motel in Millington, Tennessee until Sunday, April 7, 1968, when he traveled to Holly Springs, Mississippi.

[REDACTED]

SHERIDAN stated that he departed Millington, Tennessee for Holly Springs, Mississippi on Sunday, April 7, 1968 because he had been unable to complete long distance telephone calls that he had attempted to place to his partner in Plain Field, Illinois. SHERIDAN explained that he ran out

5

3

of money and was attempting to contact his partner; however, the telephone circuits were constantly tied up and he was unable to make or complete these calls. As a result, he decided to travel to Holly Springs, Mississippi and check into a motel where he could successfully complete his telephone calls.

SHERIDAN stated that while en route to Holly Springs, Mississippi on April 7, 1968, he stopped at a Negro service station, which he was unable to further describe, and purchased gasoline for his automobile. He stated that after departing this service station he noticed that a suitcase was missing from his automobile. SHERIDAN could not describe the manufacturer of this suitcase, but indicated that it was tan in color. He stated that the following listed items were in the suitcase at the time it was stolen:

- Polaroid Camera
- Gideon Bible
- Two sets of underclothing
- One black pair of trousers
- A Norelco Electric Shaver

SHERIDAN stated that he checked into the Holly Inn Motel located in Holly Springs, Mississippi and remained at this motel until he was arrested by the Police Department on the morning of April 8, 1968.

SHERIDAN stated that the 1966 Cadillac that he was in possession of, is his automobile and that he purchased this Cadillac from RAY KINNEY Motors in Joliet, Illinois. SHERIDAN stated that the Illinois registration papers for this automobile had been lost or stolen.

SHERIDAN emphatically denied owning or purchasing any type of weapon. He further stated that the only occasion he had ever been through the city of Birmingham, Alabama, was on a train during the time he was in the military service.

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	ROBERT OWEN SHERIDAN
Residence	208 Joliet Road Plain Field, Illinois
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	32
Date of Birth	January 17, 1936
Place of Birth	Mount Vernon, Illinois
Height	6'
Weight	205
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Characteristics	Receding forehead
Selective Service #	11-141-36-13
Previous Arrests	Admits being arrested by the Aurora, Illinois Police Department in 1961 on a DWI charge. States charges were dropped and he was released. States he was fingerprinted by the Aurora, Illinois Police Department at the time of his arrest.
Employment	Partner in the Rabros and Associates, Plain Field, Illinois

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 4-29-68

FROM : SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On April 11, 1968, Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN telephonically advised that he did not desire that any negative type investigation, which eliminates local Jackson suspects, be sent to Memphis. He advised that negative type information should be indexed and filed at Jackson rather than be furnished to Memphis.

In view of above, the attached has been marked for indexing into the Jackson files.

1 - Jackson
JLP/brh
(1)

CCO marked for indexing

157-9586-426

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

157-9586

MJO/pac

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA MICHAEL J. O'NEILL at Fayette, Mississippi:

On April 8, 1968, Mr. ALBERT LEHMANN, Lehmann Auto Company, advised that on April 3, 1968, he was at the Jack Wright Cafe in Fayette and he overheard a man by the name of SMYTHE state that when MARTIN LUTHER KING went to Memphis on April 4, 1968, he would be killed. LEHMANN advised that he did not push the issue any further with SMYTHE but thought that the FBI should be advised. LEHMANN stated that SMYTHE works for the Mississippi Power and Light Company in Fayette. LEHMANN stated that when SMYTHE made this statement it was his (LEHMAN's) opinion that the statement was not made as a threat and he felt that SMYTHE made the statement just as a passing remark.

STANLEY E. SMYTHE was interviewed at his place of employment in Fayette, Mississippi, the Mississippi Power and Light Company. SMYTHE admitted making the statement but stated that when he did he was in the town clerk's office and not at Jack Wright's Cafe. He stated that this statement was made by him just as a passing remark and did not mean it as a threat in any way. He stated that it was the opinion of many people that at one time or another harm would come to MARTIN LUTHER KING if he carried on as he was.

2

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/12/68

STANLEY E. SMYTHE was advised of the identity of the interviewing Agent. SMYTHE then furnished the following information at his place of employment, the Mississippi Power and Light Company in Fayette, Mississippi.

When asked about his activities on the night of April 3, 1968, SMYTHE stated that he got off work at about 5:30 and then went home. SMYTHE stated that he was home all evening and did not leave the house. He stated he does not remember being at Jack Wright's Cafe on this particular evening. When asked if he had made any kind of statement concerning Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., on this particular evening, SMYTHE advised that while he was at the town clerk's office he did make the statement that when MARTIN LUTHER KING went to Memphis on April 4, 1968, he would be killed. He said he made this statement only as a passing remark and did not intend it to be a threat. SMYTHE stated that in fact many people had been talking about the fact that MARTIN LUTHER KING someday would be killed due to his radical attitudes and activities. SMYTHE stated that the last time he was in Memphis, Tennessee, was sometime back in 1965.

The following is a description of STANLEY E. SMYTHE obtained through interview and observation:

Name -	STANLEY E. SMYTHE
Race -	White
Sex -	Male
Date of Birth -	November 29, 1917
Place of Birth -	New Orleans, Louisiana
Height -	5'11½"
Weight -	197 pounds
Hair -	Curly, black, graying
Eyes -	Blue
Complexion -	Ruddy

On 4/8/68 at Fayette, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA MICHAEL J. O'NEILL/pac Date dictated 4/9/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

JN 157-9586

Build -	Medium to stocky
Address -	Post Office Box 296, Fayette, Mississippi
Marital Status -	Divorced
Automobile -	1966 Pontiac Executive four door, 1968 Mississippi License 32-109
Army Serial Number -	34074933
Social Security Number -	439-05-1982
Weapons -	Smith and Wesson snub nosed .38 caliber

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586) (P)

DATE: 4/22/68

FROM : SA JOHN DENNIS MILLER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Jackson teletype to Director, Birmingham, Jacksonville, and Memphis, 4/12/68.

Attached hereto is an investigative insert reflecting investigation conducted by the writer in Benton and Tippah County, Miss., in connection with captioned matter.

The only positive results of investigation to date has already been furnished interested offices. In this regard, see referenced teletype.

2 Jackson

JDM/pac

(2) *PA*

CCO marked for indexing

157-9586-425

SEARCHED <i>h</i>	INDEXED <i>h</i>
SERIALIZED <i>h</i>	FILED <i>h</i>
APR 30 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan.

JN 157-9586

JDM/wgj

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ADMINISTRATIVE:

The following investigation was conducted by
SA JOHN DENNIS MILLER on April 9, 1968:

J. W. COOMBS, Personnel Manager, Ripley Shoe
Products, Ripley, Mississippi, confidentially advised
that a review of his records reflect that JERRY GOOLSBY
formerly of Route 4, Ripley, Mississippi, had executed an
employment application with his firm.

A review of that record reflects the following
descriptive data:

Date of birth	December 27, 1938
Eyes	Blue
Hair	Blond
Height	Six feet three inches
Weight	One hundred eighty pounds
Military service	U. S. Army, April 2, 1958 to July 2, 1959
Social Security Number	428-76-2788
Prior arrests	None listed

COOMBS advised that he knows JERRY GOOLSBY
personally and stated that GOOLSBY is currently employed
at Oakly Ford, East, a Ford dealer in Memphis, Tennessee.
COOMBS stated that GOOLSBY resides at an unknown location
in Memphis.

In connection with his employment, he drives all
sorts of demonstrator automobiles.

COOMBS stated that GOOLSBY was not a violent
person and he, COOMBS, would be greatly surprised if
GOOLSBY was involved in any sort of violent acts.

JN 157-9586

JDM/wgj

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA JOHN DENNIS MILLER:

On the night of April 8, 1968, Tippah County Deputy Sheriff BRUMLEY advised that he knows no one named JERRY GOALSBY, but is familiar with a white male named JERRY GOOLSBY.

Deputy Sheriff BRUMLEY described GOOLSBY as a white male, five feet eight inches, one hundred sixty-five pounds, blond hair, blue eyes, fair complexion, who is employed as a car salesman in Memphis, Tennessee. He advised that GOOLSBY has been arrested for public drunkenness in Tippah County. He advised that he thought, but was not positive, that GOOLSBY has been residing in Memphis for some time.

On April 9, 1968, attempts to locate and interview Mrs. JERRY GOOLSBY, Ripley, Mississippi, and DILLARD GOOLSBY of Route 4, Ripley, Mississippi, were met with negative results.

On April 9, 1968, Tippah County Deputy Sheriff W. H. KELLUM, advised that he is familiar with JERRY GOOLSBY who formerly resided in Ripley, Mississippi, but now resides at an unknown location in Memphis, Tennessee, in connection with his employment as an automobile salesman in that city.

KELLUM stated that the Tippah County Sheriff's Office has arrested GOOLSBY previously for public drunkenness and stated that GOOLSBY has been known to become rowdy when drinking.

KELLUM stated that GOOLSBY has not been observed to his knowledge in the Ripley, Mississippi, area for the past several weeks and advised that GOOLSBY frequents

JN 157-9586

2

the Ripley, Mississippi, area only on weekends.

KELLUM advised that to the best of his knowledge GOOLSBY was not a violent person and he would not consider him a good suspect in the KING slaying.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 4-29-68

FROM : SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On April 11, 1968, Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN telephonically advised that he did not desire that any negative type investigation, which eliminates local Jackson suspects, be sent to Memphis. He advised that negative type information should be indexed and filed at Jackson rather than be furnished to Memphis.

File at Jackson Only

1 - Jackson
JLP/brh
(1)

*CCO
marked for indexing*

157-9586-424

SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
APR 30 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	



5010-108-01

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

JN 157-9586

RDG:lsk

1

At Durant, Mississippi

On April 17, 1968, D. C. COLLIER, Owner, D.C.'s Taxi, 404 Lee Street, telephone number 653-6517, Durant, furnished the following oral information:

On April 16, 1968, at 2:50 p.m., he picked up a white male passenger at the Continental Trailways Bus Station, Highway 51. COLLIER described this individual as follows:

Name:	Unknown
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Age:	40s
Height:	5'9"
Weight:	145-150
Eyes:	Brownish
Hair:	Dark brown (full head of hair, no hat)
Complexion:	Brownish
Build:	Skinny
Clothes:	Dark brown suit, white shirt with open collar, no tie, no packages or possessions
Miscellaneous:	Appeared to be drunk.

COLLIER further advised that the subject requested to be taken to a place where he could "obtain a drink". COLLIER stated he drove him to Ellis' Package Liquor Store, Highway 51. Subject paid COLLIER 50¢ for the two block ride. Subject appeared to enter a rooming house located across the street from the package store after which time he advised COLLIER that his services would no longer be needed.

COLLIER stated that at approximately 6 p.m. the same date he received a call from Southland Service Station, Highway 51, to pick up a passenger. COLLIER further stated that he drove to the station where he picked up the same individual who apparently had been talking with the station attendant GUS DICKSON.

JN 157-9586

RDG:lsk

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COLLIER stated that he transported the subject to the Durant Hotel, Highway 51, for which passage he was paid 50¢ again.

COLLIER further advised that at approximately 6 a.m. on April 17, 1968, he was parked in his cab asleep at the Illinois Central Train Station. According to COLLIER, the subject appeared on foot and asked information concerning the next bus through Durant. COLLIER stated that he advised the subject that the first bus would arrive at 9 a.m. COLLIER advised the subject stated he did not want to stay that long and hired COLLIER to drive him to Jackson.

COLLIER stated that he transported the subject to Jackson, Mississippi, stopping over at Billups Service Station, Canton, Mississippi, where the subject got change for a \$20 bill. COLLIER stated that he discharged his passenger at approximately 7 a.m. in front of the Sun and Sand Motel located on Lamar Street in Jackson, Mississippi. COLLIER stated subject paid him \$25 cash for the services, furnishing one \$20 denomination Federal Reserve Note, Serial Number F06318518A, series year 1963.

COLLIER stated that the subject engaged in little conversation en route to Jackson, only admitting that his mother (name not furnished) had died in Monroe, Louisiana. COLLIER stated that the subject instructed him to pay no attention in the event he began crying.

COLLIER was exhibited composite drawings of the subject from Memphis and Birmingham. COLLIER stated that the subject in the Birmingham photo had too full a face and it was not a good likeness. COLLIER stated that the Memphis photo did not resemble the subject in any way.

JN 157-9586

RDG:lsk

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On April 17, 1968, LUCILLE ELIZABETH FERGUSON, Manager, Continental Trailways (CT) Bus Station, Highway 51, advised that approximately 2:50 p.m. on April 16, 1968, the CT Bus arrived at Durant and discharged one male passenger.

Mrs. FERGUSON further advised that the bus driver, WALLER E. "ELLIS" HAYNES, address Jackson, Mississippi, "okayed" the subject's ticket, meaning it allowed him to stop over at Durant. According to Mrs. FERGUSON, the subject had a ticket with a destination "beyond Jackson", but she could not recall the name of the town.

Mrs. FERGUSON described the subject as follows:

Name:	Unknown
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Age:	30s or 40s
Height:	Approximately 5'8"
Hair:	Dark brown
Eyes:	Unknown
Weight:	Unknown
Build:	Medium
Complexion:	Medium
Clothing:	Dark colored suit with a white shirt
Miscellaneous:	Appeared to be "dopey or drunk"

Mrs. FERGUSON stated that that particular CT Bus originates at 10:40 a.m. in Memphis, travels straight down Highway 51 avoiding the interstate. Mrs. FERGUSON stated that the bus makes many local stops en route. Mrs. FERGUSON stated that the bus was scheduled to arrive in Jackson at 4:30 p.m. April 16, 1968, at the CT Station on Pascagoula Street in Jackson.

JN 157-9586

RDG:lsk

2

Mrs. FERGUSON was exhibited the composite pictures from Birmingham and Memphis. She described the Birmingham photograph as being a slight resemblance to the subject. She stated the Memphis photograph did not resemble the subject at all.

JN 157-9586

RDG:lsk

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On April 17, 1968, Mrs. KATHERYN KYLE, Manager, Durant Hotel, Highway 51, exhibited a guest registration card having the handwritten signature of "SAMMY STEWART" (illegible). Mrs. KYLE stated that the guest appeared to be in an inebriated condition and requested that she enter his street address, 4707 N Street, Shreveport, Louisiana. Mrs. KYLE stated that the guest was assigned Room 227. According to Mrs. KYLE the guest attempted to place a long distance call to the airport in Jackson, Mississippi, but was refused permission because of his drunken condition. Mrs. KYLE stated that the guest paid his bill of \$3.15 in advance, furnishing three \$1 bills and a quarter as payment.

Mrs. KYLE stated that the guest left a call with the desk to be awakened at 10 p.m. April 16, 1968. Mrs. KYLE stated that the clerk rang his room at that time, but there was no answer.

Mrs. KYLE stated that before 10 p.m. the subject placed a long distance collect call from his room to Shreveport, Louisiana.

Mrs. KYLE further advised that the guest apparently checked out before 8 a.m. April 17, 1968, which is the time she reports for duty.

Mrs. KYLE stated that the night clerk is FRANK WILTSHIRE who lives in Durant.

Mrs. KYLE described the guest as follows:

Name:	<u>SAMMY STEWART</u> (illegible)
Address:	4707 N Street, Shreveport, Louisiana
Race:	White
Sex:	Male
Age:	40's
Height:	5'10" to 5'11"
Weight:	"Not heavy set"

JN 157-9586

RDG:lsk

2

Hair:	Black, curly and wavey
Eyes:	Unknown
Clothing:	Navy blue suit
Miscellaneous:	Guest was obviously inebriated

Mrs. KYLE was exhibited composite photographs from Memphis and Birmingham. She stated the Memphis photograph appeared to be too young. She described the Birmingham subject as bearing a slight resemblance.

JN 157-9586

RDG:bal

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The following investigation was conducted by
SA RALPH D. GARDNER:

AT DURANT, MISSISSIPPI

On April 17, 1968, KENNETH ELLIS, Owner, Ellis' Package Liquor Store, Mississippi Alcoholic Beverage Commission Number 0216, Highway 51, advised on the afternoon of April 16, 1968, a white male appeared in a sober condition at his store and purchased for \$1.70, one-half pint of Seagrams ^Even Crown Whiskey.

ELLIS stated that the same individual returned approximately three or four hours later the same day, and appeared to be in a drunken or "doped" condition. ELLIS stated that at this time, the individual requested to purchase another one-half pint of Seagrams Seven Crown; however, ELLIS refused in view of the inebriated condition of the customer. ELLIS stated the customer then requested to purchase Schlitz Beer and was advised that package liquor stores are prohibited from selling beer.

ELLIS stated that the individual then requested him, ELLIS, to telephone a taxicab for him. ELLIS stated that he did call a taxi. ELLIS stated that while he, the customer, was waiting for the cab, he appeared to drink straight whiskey from a bottle, which he had brought into the store with him. ELLIS stated he advised the individual that such drinking was also prohibited by law, and the customer discontinued this activity.

ELLIS stated that the customer asked several times what the distance in miles was to Alexandria, Louisiana. ELLIS stated that the customer waited for approximately 20 to 30 minutes for the cab to arrive, but when it did not appear the customer left the store on foot.

ELLIS described the individual as follows:

Name	Unknown
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	40's
Height	5 feet, 10 inches
Weight	165 pounds
Hair	Dark
Eyes	Unknown
Complexion	Dark
Build	Medium
Clothes	Dark suit, white shirt and tie

ELLIS was exhibited the Birmingham and Memphis composite sketches without successful identification.

On April 17, 1968, GUS DICKERSON, age 57, Agent, Southland Service Station, Highway 51, advised that on April 16, 1968, at approximately 5:15 P.M., an unidentified white male appeared on foot at his station.

DICKERSON stated that this individual requested to know the mileage to Shreveport, Louisiana. DICKERSON described this individual as appearing to be drunk or "doped up."

DICKERSON stated that he personally noticed a rolled up wad of currency in twenty dollar denominations, amounting to at least \$300, which the individual maintained in his right front pants pocket.

DICKERSON stated that at the request of the individual, he called a taxicab. DICKERSON stated that after approximately 30 minutes, the individual was picked up by a Durant taxicab.

DICKERSON stated that on April 17, 1968, at approximately 6:15 A.M., this same individual appeared at his service station in the same taxicab, driven by "D. C.," a Negro taxi driver. The taxi driver purchased \$1.00 worth of gas, and the white male passenger paid twenty-five cents for a small coke. DICKERSON stated the cab containing the white male customer and the driver proceeded south on Highway 51.

DICKERSON described the white male as follows:

Name	Unknown
Race	White
Sex	Male
Age	35-38 years
Height	6 feet, 1½ inches
Weight	175-180 pounds
Hair	Blond-black hair, with a few gray hairs at front hairline
Eyes	Blue
Complexion	Ruddy
Build	Medium
Apparel	Dark suit, obviously wrinkled; green shirt, no tie, open collar

JN 157-9586

4

DICKERSON was exhibited the Memphis and Birmingham sketches. DICKERSON stated that the Memphis sketch appeared to be a good likeness of the individual; however, the individual who visited him was at least ten years older than the subject in the picture. DICKERSON stated that the Birmingham drawing appeared an excellent likeness of the customer.

JN 157-9586

DJC/pac

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The following investigation was conducted by
SAs DANIEL J. CONNELL and RALPH D. GARDNER at Durant,
Mississippi, on April 17, 1968:

KATHERYN KYLE, Manager, Durant Hotel, viewed the
following photographs in an attempt to identify the individual
who had registered in Room 227 of the Durant Hotel the night
before:

HASKELL EDWARD JOHNSON
CLARK CHARLES BULWINKLE
CHARLES ROBERT LLOYD
ERIC STARVO GALT
TOM ABLE
NORMAN BRUCE ROLLINS
EARL EDWARD SIMMS

KYLE advised that the individual who stayed in
Room 227, the previous night was not among those in the photographs.
She did say that the individual slightly resembled ERIC STARVO
GALT from the eyes up. KYLE concluded by stating that she
did not take too close a look at this individual.

D. C. COLLIER, D. C. Taxi Stand, Durant, Mississippi,
advised that he was the cab driver who transported a white
male from the Durant Hotel to the Sun-N-Sand Hotel at 6:00 a.m.,
on April 17, 1968. COLLIER stated that this individual
paid a \$25 bill with two \$20s. COLLIER viewed photographs
of the following:

HASKELL EDWARD JOHNSON
CLARK CHARLES BULWINKLE
CHARLES ROBERT LLOYD
ERIC STARVO GALT
TOM ABLE
EDWARD EARL SIMMS
NORMAN BRUCE ROLLINS

COLLIER stated that he could not identify any of the photographs as being identical to the individual whom he drove to Jackson in his cab that morning.

Mrs. LUCILLE FERGUSON, Manager, Trailways Bus Station, Highway 51, Durant, Mississippi, advised that she had only caught a fleeting glimpse of the individual as he stood across the street in front of the package liquor store. FERGUSON viewed photographs of the following:

CLARK CHARLES BULWINKLE
CHARLES ROBERT LLOYD
ERIC STARVO GALT
TOM ABLE
EDWARD EARL SIMMS
NORMAN BRUCE ROLLINS
HASKELL EDWARD JOHNSON

FERGUSON stated that she could not identify any of the photographs and that she had only caught a slight glimpse of the individual.

KENNETH ELLIS, Manager, Package Liquor Store, Highway 51, Durant, Mississippi, advised that a white male, dressed in a dark suit, had purchased a bottle of 7 Crown in a half pint quantity from him on the afternoon of April 16, 1968. ELLIS added that this individual came back later in the day and attempted to buy another bottle, but ELLIS felt that he was too intoxicated and would not sell him another bottle. ELLIS viewed photographs of the following:

HASKELL EDWARD JOHNSON
NORMAN BRUCE ROLLINS
EDWARD EARL SIMMS
ERIC STARVO GALT
TOM ABLE
CHARLES ROBERT LLOYD
CLARK CHARLES BULWINKLE

ELLIS stated that he could not identify any of the pictures as being identical with the individual who had been in his liquor store the previous day.

GUS DICKERSON, Agent, Southland Service Station, Route 51, Durant, Mississippi, advised that an individual dressed in a dark suit had been in his service station the previous afternoon or early that morning accompanied by a cab driver known to DICKERSON as D. C. COLLIER. DICKERSON stated that COLLIER bought a dollar's worth of gas and that the individual with COLLIER put a coin in the soft drink machine and purchased a bottle of soda. DICKERSON stated that this individual displayed a large roll of \$20 bills approximating \$300 or \$400. DICKERSON viewed photographs of the following:

HASKELL EDWARD JOHNSON
NORMAN BRUCE ROLLINS
EDWARD EARL SIMMS
ERIC STARVO GALT
TOM ABLE
CHARLES ROBERT LLOYD
CLARK CHARLES BULWINKLE

DICKERSON stated that the individual who had been in his service station exhibiting the large roll of \$20 bills strongly resembled the photograph of ERIC STARVO GALT. DICKERSON stated that he could not be absolutely certain and that the individual seemed to have a much thinner face than the one exhibited by GALT in the photograph. DICKERSON stated that he had heard that the same individual had been in the Corner Grill Cafe in Durant the previous afternoon.

~~IKE JENKINS~~, Proprietor, Corner Grill Cafe, Durant, Mississippi, advised that he could not recall a strange

JN 157-9586

4

individual being in his cafe on the afternoon of April 16, 1968. JENKINS then advised that there was an individual in there the morning of April 16, 1968. JENKINS further advised that this individual had gotten off the train at the depot across the street and was hitchhiking to New Orleans. JENKINS viewed photographs of the following:

HASKELL EDWARD JOHNSON
NORMAN BRUCE ROLLINS
EDWARD EARL SIMMS
ERIC STARVO GALT
TOM ABLE
CHARLES ROBERT LLOYD
CLARK CHARLES BULWINKLE

JENKINS advised that none of the photographs appeared familiar to him.

JN 157-9586

PRC:mif

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The following investigation was conducted by
SA PATRICK R. COONEY at Shreveport, Louisiana:

On April 17, 1968, KATHY COOK, clerk, Bureau of Identification, Shreveport, Louisiana, Police Department, advised that her records reflect that an individual named SAMMIE STEWART was arrested by the Shreveport Police Department on February 22, 1966, for being drunk and disorderly. He was assigned Shreveport Police Department number 62700. The disposition listed on this arrest is \$10 bond, forfeited, on February 24, 1966.

The following description of STEWART was obtained from this file:

Sex	Male
Race	White
Occupation	None
Date of Birth	January 29, 1919
Place of Birth	Florien, Louisiana
Height	5' 9 3/4"
Weight	152 pounds
Hair	Brown
Eyes	Brown
Complexion	Ruddy
Build	Medium
Residence	305 North MacDill, Tampa, Florida

This file contained an FBI Identification Record, which showed STEWART's FBI Number to be 549 315 A. The following arrests were shown on this FBI Identification Record:

<u>Contributor of Fingerprints</u>	<u>Name and Number</u>	<u>Arrested or Received</u>	<u>Charge</u>	<u>Disposition</u>
Sheriff's Office, Tampa, Florida	SAMMIE STEWART Number 36372	October 9, 1948	Drunk	None
Office of Special Investigations, Air Force	SAMMIE STEWART Number 41 54283	October 2, 1950	Applicant	None
Sheriff's Office, Shreveport, Louisiana	SAMMIE STEWART Number 15952	June 26, 1955	Driving while intoxicated	None listed

The current Shreveport, Louisiana, City Directory shows a listing for a SAMMY STEWART, residing at 1741 Southern Avenue, Shreveport, Louisiana. No other information is contained in the City Directory.

The following investigation was conducted by SA JAMES W. SMITH at Shreveport, Louisiana:

On April 17, 1968, Captain BOBBY WILKINS, Bureau of Identification, Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office, made available his file on SAMMIE STEWART, which file reflected that STEWART was assigned Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office number 15952 and was arrested on June 26, 1955, by the Louisiana State Police for driving while intoxicated. STEWART was released after posting \$350 bond. This file reflects STEWART's FBI Number to be 549 315 A.

The following description was obtained from the files of the Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office regarding SAMMIE STEWART:

JN 157-9586

3

Sex	Male
Race	White
Date of Birth	January 29, 1919
Place of Birth	Florien, Louisiana
Eyes	Brown
Hair	Black
Height	5' 9 3/4"
Weight	168 pounds
Remarks	Gap between upper teeth

A photograph of SAMMIE STEWART taken June 27, 1955, was made available by the Caddo Parish Sheriff's Office.

JN 157-9586

PRC:mif

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA EUGENE TEREFEKO at Shreveport, Louisiana:

On April 17, 1968, VIRGINIA RION, clerk, Retail
Merchants Credit Association, advised that she could
locate no record identifiable with SAMMY or SAMMIE STEWART
in the files of the Retail Merchants Credit Association.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 4/17/68

FROM : SA ROY F. RODMAN

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On 4/17/68, a number of photos including that of ERIC STARVO GALT were exhibited to Mr. J. W. BROOKS and JUANITA JONES, desk clerks, at the Sun-n-Sand Motel, Jackson, Miss., for the purpose of determining whether or not the picture of GALT was identical to an individual who had attempted to register at that motel early this date. After checking these photos, both BROOKS and JONES failed to identify picture of GALT as in any way resembling the individual who attempted to register there that date. They described the individual who had attempted to register at about 8:00 a.m., that morning as a white male, about 50 years of age, 5'11", 180 pounds, with dark hair. He arrived in a Yellow Cab without luggage and appeared to be in a drunken condition. He was unshaven and dressed in rumpled sports clothing. He had a potbelly. Since he was obviously not the type of person they desired as a guest, he was refused a room and another Yellow Cab was called for him, and he departed the premises in same.

(Photo of Sammie Stewart received from Shreveport, La. RA, exhibited to J. W. Brooks and Juanita Jones, supra, they identified Stewart as being the man who attempted to obtain a room at the Sun-Sand, Inc., on 4/17/68. They also recalled he used the name "Stewart".)

② Jackson

RFR/pac

(2)



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE: 4-29-68

FROM : SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On April 11, 1968, Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN telephonically advised that he did not desire that any negative type investigation, which eliminates local Jackson suspects, be sent to Memphis. He advised that negative type information should be indexed and filed at Jackson rather than be furnished to Memphis.

The attached pages have been marked for indexing into the Jackson file.

Investigation concerns the elimination of Aaron Leane Lofton as possible subject.

903117
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 8/27/99 BY SP2ALM/LTH

1 - Jackson
JLP/brh
(1)

CCO marked for

157-9586-423

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	



5010-108-01

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 18, 1968

HARVEY VEST, Manager of Vest's Department Store, and President of the Do-Si-Do Square Dance Club, was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent.

Mr. VEST noted that most of the individuals who attended square dancing in Mc Comb are known to him. He recalled that approximately two years ago, there was one individual who was single and a stranger to Mc Comb who attended square dancing for about three months. He said that this individual's name was RON (LNU) and was employed at Howell Motor Company, Mc Comb, Mississippi, as a salesman. VEST noted that RON always came to the dance alone, talked about having been in Mexico and appeared to be somewhat "odd." VEST noted that RON was considered a good dancer.

He advised that he has not seen RON in or around the Mc Comb area for about two years and could furnish no information concerning his present whereabouts. He described RON as a white male, 5' 10", 150-160 pounds, approximately 33 years old, brown hair, and fair complexion.

VEST stated that there are no other dancing clubs other than in Mc Comb, Mississippi, in the Counties of Amite, Lawrence, Lincoln, Pike and Walthall.

On 4/15/68 at Mc Comb, Mississippi File # 157-9586

by SA CYRUS V. HOAGLUND, JR.:mah Date dictated 4/18/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 18, 19681

KRANDALL HOWELL, Manager, Howell Motor Company, Mc Comb, Mississippi, was advised of the identity of the interviewing agent.

HOWELL stated that an individual by the name of AARON I. LOFTON, also known as RON LOFTON, had been employed as a salesman by him from February, 1965, through May, 1965. He stated that LOFTON's folks originally were from Summit, Mississippi, but all of the family had allegedly moved to the Gulf Coast sometime in 1965 or 1966. He noted that AARON LOFTON had a brother by the name of BILLY JOE LOFTON who is supposedly a mathematics teacher at a junior college on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

HOWELL stated that AARON LOFTON had graduated from the Summit High School about 1954, had been in the service, was a hair stylist in Atlanta, Georgia, then went to California, where he lived for sometime and then returned to Mc Comb in 1965. HOWELL stated that it was necessary to fire LOFTON from his position as salesman because of his appearance and odd philosophy. He had professed to be an atheist and constantly was engaging customers in conversations concerning philosophy and politics. HOWELL noted that LOFTON's appearance and actions indicated that he might have homosexual tendencies.

HOWELL furnished the following description of LOFTON:

White male, 5' 11", 160 pounds, brown hair, fair complexion, age 32, last known address 708 Avenue B,

On 4/15/68 at Mc Comb, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA CYRUS V. HOAGLUND:mah Date dictated 4/18/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

JN 157-9586

2

Mc Comb, Mississippi, Social Security #425-56-6206.

HOWELL advised that he could furnish no information concerning LOFTON's present whereabouts other than he might possibly be on the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 17, 1968

Mr. VERNON SILLS, Principal, Gibson High School, McComb, Mississippi, was advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS and the nature of the inquiry.

Mr. SILLS advised that he would furnish any information available from the records of the Gibson High School regarding individuals who attended the Summit High School prior to its closing.

Mr. SILLS obtained the record of BILLY JOE LOFTON and therefrom determined that BILLY JOE LOFTON had only one brother, no sisters, and that his father's name was AARON LOFTON, no address given.

Mr. SILLS advised there was no record of a RON LOFTON having attended the Summit High School at any time.

Thereafter, Mr. SILLS located the record of AARON ISAAC LOFTON who graduated third in a class of eighteen at the Summit High School in 1953.

This record listed his date of birth as October 28, 1934; place of birth Brookhaven, Mississippi; father, AARON LOFTON, occupation mechanic. The record listed the father's former address as Natchez, Mississippi, and indicated AARON ISAAC LOFTON attended school at the "Institution" in the fourth grade.

Attached to the high school record of AARON ISAAC LOFTON is a "college entrance certificate for Mississippi" for AARON (IKE) ISAAC LOFTON born October 28, 1934, parent or guardian AARON LOFTON. This form indicated that AARON ISAAC LOFTON attended the Hazlehurst, Mississippi, High School from August, 1949, to May, 1950.

On 4/15/68 at Summit, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA CYRUS V. HOAGLUND, JR.
SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/RLT/bkh Date dictated 4/17/68

JN 157-9586

This form contains notations indicating a transcript of AARON ISAAC LOFTON's high school record was sent to "S. W., August, 1954," and to "Memphis Academy of Arts, October 12, 1957."

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 17, 1968

Mr. C. R. BRELAND, Registrar, Southwest, Mississippi, Junior College, Summit, Mississippi, was advised of the identities of the interviewing Agents by SA REESIE L. TIMMONS who also advised him of the nature of the inquiry.

Mr. BRELAND made available the record of AARON LOFTON, born October 28, 1934, who was admitted to Southwest Junior College in September of 1954, and who dropped out in January of 1955, at the end of the first term.

A review of this record indicates that a transcript thereof was sent to "Memphis Academy of Arts, 690 Adams Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, on October 14, 1957.

A transcript was sent to "Dean, Balboa Junior College, Panama Canal Zone." Mr. BRELAND advised that this transcript was sent before 1963 when he became registrar. He advised that he could fix no date for that action.

Mr. BRELAND advised that he is positive that he has sent transcripts to at least two colleges in the State of California during the past two years for AARON LOFTON. He stated there is no notation of subject in his records but he personally recalls sending the transcripts.

Mr. BRELAND further advised he is positive that at sometime in August, 1967, he sent a copy of the transcript of AARON LOFTON to Ingalls Shipyard at Pascagoula, Mississippi.

Mr. BRELAND stated there is a notation in the record of AARON LOFTON indicating that LOFTON appeared at the registrar's office on August 22, 1967, and was given a copy of his transcript.

On 4/15/68 at Summit, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA CYRUS V. HOAGLUND, JR.
SA REESIE L. TIMMONS/RLT/bkh Date dictated 4/17/68

JN 157-9586

Mr. BRELAND advised that he knows AARON ISAAC LOFTON, has seen him in the McComb - Summit areas on three or four occasions during the past two to three years.

He advised that he has heard that AARON LOFTON has been employed as a hair stylist in Southern California and in Atlanta, Georgia, sometime during the past three to five years.

He stated that he knew LOFTON was employed by Howell Motor Company near Summit, Mississippi, approximately three years ago and thereafter eventually obtained some type of employment in the vicinity of Pascagoula, Mississippi.

JN 157-9586

RLT/bkh

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ADMINISTRATIVE:

The following investigation was conducted by
SA REESIE L. TIMMONS:

ROSE MARY FANCHER, Clerk, Local Board 62,
McComb, Mississippi, on April 15, 1968, confidentially
made available the selective service record of AARON ISAAC
LOFTON, Selective Service Number 22-62-34-283.

This record listed the address of AARON ISAAC
LOFTON as Post Office Box 64, Summit, Mississippi.

He is described as follows:

Height	5'11"
Weight	145 Pounds
Hair	Blonde - Brown
Eyes	Gray
Complexion	Fair

The record indicates that LOFTON entered
the U. S. Army on January 24, 1955, and was discharged
November 1, 1957. His serial number is RA 24-919-772.
He was discharged while at Walter Reed Army Medical Center
under honorable conditions and was transferred to the
Mississippi Military District where he served in Ready
Reserves at Summit, Mississippi, in the 154th Infantry
Battalion. He was discharged from the reserves by letter
from the 12th U. S. Army Corps Control Group on March 31,
1962, and his "home of record" listed as 343 8th Street
Northeast Atlanta, Georgia, Apartment F and I.

Review of this record indicates he was discharged
"reason and authority, Par 8 AR 635-205-SPN412-Pets-Convenience
of Government."

JN 157-9586

CVH:mah

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA CYRUS V. HOAGLUND at Mc Comb, Mississippi:

ROBERT CULLOTTA, Clerk, United States Post Office,
Mc Comb, Mississippi (Protect Identity), advised that
an AARON LOFTON, 708 Avenue B, Mc Comb, Mississippi,
had left a forwarding address of Route 1, Box 8,
Gautier, Mississippi, and that the forwarding address
card was dated July 16, 1965.

JN 157-9586

CVH:mah

1

The following investigation was conducted
by SA CYRUS V. HOAGLUND at Mc Comb, Mississippi:

LILLIAN LAMKIN, Credit Bureau of Mc Comb,
Pike County, Mississippi, furnished the following
information concerning AARON LOFTON, nicknamed RON,
former address 708 Avenue B, Mc Comb, Mississippi.

A credit report dated October 21, 1966, had
been prepared for the Jackson County, Mississippi,
Credit Bureau which disclosed the following:

Name	AARON I. LOFTON
Address	Box 291, Gautier, Mississippi
Former Addresses	708 Avenue B, Mc Comb, Mississippi; 915 Ferry Street, Pascagoula, Mississippi
Race	White
Sex	Male
Employment	Welder Department 6-32504 Ingalls Shipbuilding, Pascagoula, Mississippi
Former Employment	Howell Motor Company
Remarks:	Subject, prior to above employment, was reported to be a hair stylist in California and prior to that in military service.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

Mr. J. D. ~~ASHLEY~~, Security Guard, Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation, Pascagoula, Mississippi, advised the Security Office files contain an Active File Card for one AARON I. LOFTON, Social Security Number 425-56-6206, who is presently assigned in Department 68. Mr. ASHLEY said the Active File Card bears LOFTON's signature and indicates the following employment history with that corporation:

First hired November 10, 1965, assigned
Department Number 6, Clock Number 32504.

Transferred January 31, 1966, Department
Number 9, Clock Number 32504.

Transferred March 15, 1968, Department
Number 68, Clock Number 12724.

Mr. ASHLEY advised that Mr. WALTER L. POL, Chief Security Officer, would have additional background information on file on LOFTON. He said the payroll records which would include the time cards for LOFTON would be on file in the Paymasters Office.

On 4/15/68 at Pascagoula, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

SA LEON ROSS GRABEN

by SA DAVID P. HURLEY LRG/wgj Date dictated 4/16/68

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/19/68

Mr. ~~WALTER POL~~, Security Officer, Ingall's Shipbuilding Corporation, Pascagoula, Mississippi, made available for review the Personnel Security Questionnaire pertaining to AARON ISAAC LOFTON dated January 11, 1966, which disclosed the following information:

Date of Birth	October 28, 1934
Place of Birth	Brookhaven, Mississippi
Sex	Male
Marital Status	Single
Height	6'
Weight	165 pounds
Eyes	Hazel
Hair	Blond
Social Security Number	425-56-6206.

He has a security clearance of Secret.

He indicated that he had attended the following schools:

September, 1940, to February, 1941, Arlington Grade School, Lincoln County, Mississippi, graduate-no.

February, 1941, to January, 1943, Gravel Hill Grade School, Pitkin, Louisiana, graduate-no.

March, 1944, to October, 1944, Summit Grammar, Summit, Mississippi, graduate-no.

October, 1944, to January, 1945, Wyndot Grammar, Baton Rouge, Louisiana, graduate-no.

On 4/15/68 at Pascagoula, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SAs DAVID P. HURLEY and LEON ROSS GRABEN: DPH/ccs Date dictated 4/17/68

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January, 1945, to June, 1945, Natchez Grammar,
Natchez, Mississippi, graduate-no.

September, 1945, to June, 1948, Summit Grammar
School, Summit, Mississippi, graduate-no.

September, 1948, to June, 1949, Hazlehurst High,
Hazlehurst, Mississippi, graduate-no.

September, 1949, to May, 1953, Summit High, Summit,
Mississippi, graduate-yes.

May, 1953, to October, 1953, Draughon's Business
College, Jackson, Mississippi, graduate-no.

September, 1954, to January, 1955, Southern
Mississippi Junior College, Summit, Mississippi,
graduate-no.

May, 1959, to November, 1959, American Hair Syling
Academy, Jacksonville, Mississippi, graduate-yes.

July, 1965, to November, 1965, MDTA School,
Pascagoula, Mississippi, graduate-yes.

He indicated that he had the following military
service:

<u>Country</u>	<u>Branch of Service</u>	<u>Service Number</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
U.S.	Mississippi National Guard	NG 24919772	February, 1954	January, 1955
U. S.	Army	RA 24919772	January, 1955	November, 1957
U. S.	Army Reserve	AR 24919772	November, 1957	March, 1962.

LOFTON showed that he received an honorable discharge and that he was registered with Local Selective Service Board Number 62 at McComb, Mississippi, and had a 5-A classification

He showed the following residences:

Franklin County, Mississippi, from December, 1936, to February, 1941,

Pitkin, Louisiana, from February, 1941, to January, 1943,

McCall's Creek, Mississippi, from January, 1943, to March, 1944,

Summit, Mississippi, from March, 1944, to October, 1944,

Baton Rouge, Louisiana, from October, 1944, to January, 1945,

Natchez, Mississippi, from January, 1945, to September, 1945,

Summit, Mississippi, from September, 1945, to July, 1948,

Hazlehurst, Mississippi, from July, 1948, to June, 1949,

Box 64, Summit, Mississippi, June, 1949, to May, 1953,

Northwest Avenue, Jackson, Mississippi, May, 1953, to October, 1953,

Box 64, Summit, Mississippi, from October, 1953, to January, 1955,

U. S. Army from January, 1955, to November, 1957,

Napoleon Avenue, New Orleans, Louisiana, from November, 1957, to July, 1958,

Jacksonville Beach, Florida, from July, 1958, to November, 1959,

1164 Ogilvie Drive, Atlanta, Georgia, from November, 1959, to February, 1961,

343 8th Street, Atlanta, Georgia, February, 1961, to October, 1961,

1284 Piedmont Avenue, Atlanta, Georgia, from October, 1961, to January, 1962,

602 Ansley Forest Drive, Atlanta, Georgia, from January, 1962, to September, 1962,

8611 Truxton Avenue, Los Angeles, California, from September, 1962, to November, 1962,

103 Autumn Drive, Anaheim, California, from November, 1962, to July, 1963,

924 Hancock Avenue, from July, 1963, to October, 1964, (this address in Los Angeles, California),

1231 North Sweetzer Avenue, Los Angeles, California, from October, 1964, to February, 1965,

708 Avenue B, McComb, Mississippi, from February, 1965, to July, 1965,

Route 1, Box 8B, Gautier, Mississippi, July, 1965, to September, 1965,

1915 Perry Street, Pascagoula, Mississippi, from September, 1965, to present.

He listed the following employments:

 to May, 1953, student, high school
and grammar school,

May, 1953, to October, 1953, student, Draughon's
Business School, Jackson, Mississippi,

October, 1953, to September, 1954, accountant,
McComb Manufacturing Company, DAVE MATTHEWS,
McComb, Mississippi,

September, 1954, to January, 1955, student,
Southwest Mississippi Junior College, Summit,
Mississippi,

January, 1955, to November, 1957, U. S. Army,

November, 1957, to January, 1958, sales clerk,
Holmes Department Store, Canal Street, New Orleans,
Louisiana,

January, 1958, to July, 1958, instructor, Arthur
Murray Studios, TONY KENT, 840 Gravier, New
Orleans, Louisiana,

July, 1958, to November, 1959, instructor, Fred
Astaire Studios, ARTHUR POWELL, Jacksonville,
Florida,

December, 1959, to January, 1961, hair stylist,
Richardo's Beauty Salon, RICHARDO COTTINGHAM,
1938 Peachtree, Atlanta, Georgia,

January, 1961, to January, 1962, hair stylist,
Rich's Lenox Square, MARGARET MOSRIE, Rich's
Department Store, Lenox Square, Atlanta, Georgia,

January, 1962, to March, 1962, hair stylist,
The Chalet, SIDNEY JOHNSON, 2175 Cheshire
Building Road, Atlanta, Georgia,

March, 1962, to October, 1962, hair stylist,
Rich's Lenox Square, MARGARET MOSRIE, Rich's
Department Store, Lenox Square, Atlanta,
Georgia,

July, 1963, to August, 1963, unemployed,

January, 1963, to July, 1963, hair stylist,
J. P. Allen Company, Atlanta, Georgia,

November, 1962, to January, 1963, manager,
Curl N' Comb, Incorporated, JAMES VICTOR,
633 North Euclid Street, Anaheim, California,

July, 1963, to January, 1964, hair stylist,
James Victor Beauty Salon, Slauson Avenue,
Los Angeles, California,

January, 1964, to January, 1965, hair stylist,
May Company Wilshire, ROBERT WILLIAMS, Wilshire
Boulevard, Los Angeles, California,

November, 1965, to present, shipfitter, helper
apprentice, Ingall's Shipbuilding Corporation,

January, 1965, to February, 1965, unemployed,

July, 1965, to November, 1965, trainee M.D.T.A.
School, Pascagoula, Mississippi,

February, 1965, to June, 1965, Howell Motor Company,
McComb, Mississippi,

June, 1965, to July, 1965, unemployed.

Under relatives he listed the following:

Father, AARON LOFTON, 1915 Ferry Street,
Pascagoula, Mississippi, born Franklin
County, Mississippi, on December 24, 1910,
U. S. citizen,

Mother, AGNES NUNNERY LOFTON, same, born
Franklin County, Mississippi, on June 18,
1913, U. S. citizen,

Brother, BILLIE J. LOFTON, Star Route,
Gautier, Mississippi, born Franklin County,
Mississippi, dated September 28, 1937.

LOFTON indicated he had visited the following
foreign countries:

Niagara Falls, Canada, left U. S. July 2, 1955,
and returned July 4, 1955, on holiday,

Fort Kobbe, Panama Canal Zone, left U. S.
October, 1955, and returned October, 1957,
with U. S. Army,

Northern Mexico, left U. S. April 15, 1962,
and returned May 1, 1962, on vacation.

He listed the following references:

~~N. A. COPLEN~~, known 20 years, P. O. Box, Summit,
Mississippi, insurance agent,

~~W. D. FLINN~~, known 5 years, 1806 Clavey Road,
designer engineer, Lockheed, Atlanta, Georgia,

Captain A. B. BAXTER, known 10 years, 904 Carriage
Hill Apartments, now working North Carolina for
drug company,

Miss SUE CANTER, known two years, 2856 Westbrook Avenue, administrative assistant to RED SKELTON, California,

MARY D. CAIN, known 20 years, Post Office Box, newspaper editor, Summit, Mississippi.

LOFTON indicated that he had never been arrested, had never acted as a representative of any foreign government, firm, or corporation, and had no relatives residing outside the United States.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

Mr. V. H. FEDERIC, Paymaster, Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation, Pascagoula, Mississippi, furnished the following information from records of his office regarding AARON I. LOFTON, Social Security Number 425-56-6206, Clock Number 12724, and who is currently assigned to Department Number 68, with that corporation:

For the pay week ending March 31, 1968, LOFTON worked 50.5 hours of regular work hours, and 7.3 hours of over time hours.

For the pay week ending April 7, 1968, LOFTON worked 40.0 hours of regular work hours and no over time.

The individual time cards for LOFTON for the period March 29, 1968, through April 4, 1968, disclosed the following:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Clock In</u>	<u>Clock Out</u>
March 29, 1968	6:47 A.M.	3:30 P.M.
April 1, 1968	6:51 A.M.	3:30 P.M.
April 2, 1968	6:47 A.M.	3:30 P.M.
April 3, 1968	6:48 A.M.	3:33 P.M.
April 4, 1968	6:48 A.M.	3:30 P.M.

Mr. FEDERIC stated that each of the above time cards bear the signature "AARON I. LOFTON" and after comparing these signatures with the LOFTON signature on the Security Office Active File Card, Mr. FEDERIC stated he was of the opinion that LOFTON had signed each of the time cards himself. He said that

On 4/15/68 at Pascagoula, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA LEON ROSS GRABEN / wgj Date dictated 4/16/68

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JN 157-9586

due to the security measures and internal controls in use at that facility, it would be nearly impossible for an employee to have someone clock in and out for him each day. He said the only way this could be done would be for another employee, who would have an identification card, to clock in and out for another employee, however, when an employee failed to report for work on his shift, a check was immediately made of the employees time card to determine if the employee had clocked in. He said LOFTON received full pay for the period in question which would indicate that he actually reported for work during the period.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/17/68

AARON ISAAC LOFTON was interviewed at Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation, Pascagoula, Mississippi. He advised he has been employed there since July, 1965, and that he resided with his parents, Mr. and Mrs. AARON A. LOFTON on Martin Bluff Road, Gautier, Mississippi. He has long been interested in ballroom dancing and worked as a dancing instructor at the Arthur Murray Dance Studio in New Orleans, Louisiana from about January to July, 1958. He then went to Jacksonville, Florida, where he taught dancing at the Fred Astair Studio for about one year beginning about July, 1958. While in Jacksonville, he began a course in court reporting, but dropped out of this course and entered a school for hair styling. After completing this course, he worked as a professional hair stylist in Atlanta, Georgia from about 1959 to 1963 when he went to California. He worked at Anaheim, California and Los Angeles as a hair stylist until he returned to Mississippi and obtained employment at Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation in 1965.

LOFTON said the names JOHN WILLARD and HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER meant nothing to him. He was shown two artist's conceptions of two white males. He said he does not recall ever having known anyone who closely resembled either of these.

LOFTON was asked whether he had known anyone named GALT. He said he feels sure he has never known anyone by this name. He said the name is very familiar to him, as he is familiar with the character in the novel "Atlas Shrugged" who was called GALT, and he does not recall ever coming across that name again until very recently when the name appeared in the national press

On 4/16-17/68 at Pascagoula, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA'S JAMES J. FILES, and
PETER H. CROOKS/JJF:brh Date dictated 4/17/68

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JN 157-9586

in connection with the murder of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

LOFTON advised that on the day KING was killed, he worked at Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation and went home at about 3:30 p.m. He first heard of the shooting on television that evening and later the same evening he went to the home of BEN WOOD, Gautier, Mississippi, to play poker. While there, he learned that KING had died.

LOFTON furnished the following details of his background:

He was born in West Lincoln Community, Lincoln County, Mississippi on October 28, 1934. During World War II, his father, AARON ALTON LOFTON, worked for the Ross Gravel Company near Pitkin, Louisiana, and he believes he went to the Sand Hill rural school.

Still during the War, his family moved to De Ridder, Louisiana where his father worked for a gravel company. He believes they moved back to Lincoln County for a short time. Then to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, where his father worked for the Standard Oil Refinery from about late 1944 to early 1945.

The family moved to Natchez, Mississippi in about 1945 and stayed for about one year. They then moved to Summitt, Mississippi where they remained until AARON finished the eighth grade in the Spring of 1949. The family then moved to Hazelhurst, Mississippi, where his father worked as a mechanic in a clothing factory. AARON attended the Hazelhurst High School, graduating in May, 1953.

JN 157-9586

AARON left the family home in Mississippi in May, 1953 and moved to Jackson where he attended Draughn's Business College for six months. He lived then at the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA), then at a rooming house near the YMCA. Then in the Fall of 1953, he moved back to Summitt, Mississippi and stayed with his parents until January, 1955, when he went into the United States Army. During this period from late 1953 to the Fall of 1954, he worked at the McComb Manufacturing Company, MC Comb, Mississippi. In the Fall of 1954, he entered Southwest Mississippi Junior College and attended one semester before going into the Army.

During his Army career, he first went to Fort Jackson, South Carolina from January to April, 1955. Then he went to Fort Devens, Massachusetts from April to October, 1955. Then to Brookley Field, Mobile, Alabama for about one week. Then to the Panama Canal Zone from October, 1955 to October, 1957. In October, 1957, he was transferred to the Walter Reed Army Hospital, Washington, D. C., where he stayed for two weeks being treated for a disease of the ear. He was then released to inactive duty and went to his parent's home, who had now moved to a residence near McComb, Mississippi. He was placed in inactive duty at this time and remained in the Reserves until he had completed a total of eight years service. He received an honorable discharge in 1962. He said this discharge was upon his completion of his military obligation and was not due to disability or disciplinary action. He said he was released from active duty a few weeks early because of his ear problem.

He stayed at his parent's home from October to November, 1957, then went to New Orleans, Louisiana, where he resided with a friend, JAMES VAN, an employee

3

25

JN 157-9586

of WWL Television Station, on West Plum Street, from November, 1957 to January, 1958, and was employed as a sales clerk by D H HOLMES Department Store. He had met JAMES VAN through a mutual Army friend, ROBERT BARBER.

In January, 1958, he moved to a location on St. Ann Street in the French Quarter, exact address unrecalled and at about that time obtained a job teaching dancing in the Arthur Murray Studio. He left this job and this residence on about July 4, 1958 and moved to Jacksonville, Florida.

In Jacksonville, Florida, he rented a cottage with an old Army friend, ROBERT J. BARBER. This cottage, exact address unrecalled, was owned by an attorney named DOUGLAS. He went to work at Fred Astair's Studio in July, 1958 and continued there until November, 1958. From about March, 1958, he was part-time employed and attended school at the Stenographer's Institute for Court Reporting for about one month and then he transferred to the American Hair Styling Academy owned by MICHAEL ANGELO GAGLRANO until November, 1959.

In November, 1959, he moved to Atlanta, Georgia and again stayed with ROBERT BARBER, whose mother had purchased a house there. He stayed at this residence, 1164 Ogilvie Drive, for about two months. He said that BARBER is now manager of a prominent clothing store at Charlotte, North Carolina. This store, name unrecalled, has a principal branch or main store in Atlanta.

He lived at 343 8th Street, Atlanta from February, 1961 to the Fall of 1961 in an apartment he shared with JAMES LINDLEY who he met at this apartment building. Both he and LINDLEY moved to 1284 Peadmont in the Fall of 1961 and stayed until January, 1962. They then moved to 602 Ansley Forest

Drive, where they lived from January, 1962 to September, 1962. LOFTON then went to California, but LINDLEY remained and probably still lives in the same apartment. LINDLEY was employed as an estimator for the Mead Company in Atlanta.

During the period LOFTON lived in Atlanta, he worked as a hair stylist for Ricardo's Beauty Salon, 1738 Peachtree Street for about one year. Then at Rich's Department Store Salon for about one year, then at the Chalet Salon, 2175 Cheshire Boulevard, for two or three months. Then back to Rich's Department Store from about March to October, 1962, when he moved to Los Angeles.

On arriving in Los Angeles, he lived in a motel for about three weeks while obtaining a beauty operators license, and received his mail at 8611 Truxton Avenue, Los Angeles, which was address of the Weschester International Beauty College, where he took a refresher course to obtain his license. He then lived at 103 Autumn Drive, Anaheim, California from about November, 1962 to July, 1963, and worked at a small shop owned by JAMES VICTOR, who operated the above mentioned school.

He then moved to Los Angeles, 924 Hancock Avenue, and worked for another shop owned by JAMES VICTOR.

He then moved to 1231 North Sweetzer Avenue, Los Angeles and lived there from October, 1964 to February, 1965, and worked in the beauty salon at May Company Department Store. Then in about February, 1965, he moved back to his parent's home at McComb, Mississippi. He noted that between his residence at Anaheim and Los Angeles, he went back to Atlanta for about six weeks and stayed at his old residence there.

At McComb, he worked for the Howell Motor Company selling Volkswagon from February, 1965 to April

or May, 1965 and quit due to difficulty with uclers. He said he was employed until about July, 1955 and he and his family moved to Pascagoula, Mississippi, where his parents had previously purchased property. They lived in a residence on United States Highway 90 in Gautier west of Pascagoula for about two months. Then the family moved to 1915 Ferry, Moss Point, Mississippi, until July, 1966, when they moved into a new home which they had built on their property at Gautier, Mississippi.

LOFTON was employed by Ingalls Shipbuilding Corporation in July, 1965 and attended the Man Power Development and Training School operated by that company until November, when he went to work. He has continued his employment there to the present time and is employed in the testing laboratory in the welding department.

LOFTON said that he moved and changed occupations often between the time he was released from military service to 1965 because he was footloose and enjoyed moving around. He said he chose to go to Jacksonville, Florida because his friend, ROBERT BARBER, was there and that he moved on to Atlanta because BARBER had moved to Atlanta before him and had informed him that the hair styling field was good in Atlanta. He said while in Atlanta, he met JAMES VICTOR, who owns several beauty salons in California, at a hair dressing show in Atlanta and that VICTOR asked him to move to California. He said he left the hair styling occupation in 1965 for numerous reasons, some of which were it was an unstable business, he had developed ulcers, and from the tension of trying to please so many women and further that his family wanted him to return home.

LOFTON stated that during the periods he lived in New Orleans, Jacksonville, Atlanta and California, he could not recall knowing anyone well who was strongly racist or rabidly right wing. He said he is a member of the Young Republicans and while in Los Angeles, was actually working for GOLDWATER. In this capacity, he casually met numerous people who were rabidly anti-GOLDWATER and numerous other people who were rabidly anti-Communist,

JN 157-9586

but that he was never close to them and did not really know them. He said that he still belongs to the Young Republicans and is County Chairman of the organization in Jackson County, Mississippi. He said this is a small unit and he knows of no one connected with it who has radical or violent views. He said the only other organizations he belongs to are the American Welding Society and the Little Theater in Pascagoula.

Regarding his foreign travel, LOFTON advised that he visited Niagara Falls, Canada, from July 2-4, 1955. He went with some military friends to visit while assigned to Fort Devens, Massachusetts.

He took a vacation trip from April 15, to May 1, 1967 to Mexico. He drove by automobile with NORWOOD BROWN, who owns Norwood Music Store in Savannah, Georgia, BOB HOPPER, a casual acquaintance who worked for a railroad at Atlanta, and BILL (last name unknown), a friend of BROWN from Savannah. He said they entered Mexico at Brownsville, Texas, having obtained a passport in Atlanta. They traveled through the northern portion of Mexico visiting Tosco, Acapulco, Mexico City and some small towns. They left Mexico at Laredo, Texas and drove back to Atlanta. They traveled in a new Ford convertible owned by BOB HOPPER. He said in 1965 he made a one day trip into Encenado, Mexico from Los Angeles, a boarder town, just for a visit. He said he spoke some Spanish which he learned in the Canal Zone. He attended night school at Balboa Junior College there.

He said he had his Southwest Junior College credits transferred to this school. He also had his credits sent to Los Angeles City College where he enrolled, but did not complete three liberal arts courses. In August, 1967, he called CHARLES BRELAND, Registrar at Southwest Junior College and asked him to send his transcript to him, which he needed to attend Jackson County Junior College. He said he has not been on the campus of Southwest Junior College since 1965. LOFTON said he also had his credits sent to the Memphis

Academy of Arts in about 1957 or 1958 on the recommendation of ROBERT BARBER who is originally from Jackson, Tennessee, but that he did not attend this school. He has passed through Memphis about three times, but has no contacts there and has no relatives there.

He said he traveled in Mexico and from Jacksonville to Atlanta and Los Angeles and then Jackson, Tennessee where BARBER had lived, in 1967 went to Omaha, Nebraska to attend a Young Republican convention.

He said that he owns a 1968 Volkswagon fast-back which he purchased in December, 1967, and he previously owned a 1967 Volkswagon Square-back. He owns no other cars.

He said he owns a .22 caliber revolver with a four inch barrel which he purchased at Gibson's Discount Center in McComb, Mississippi in 1968, but does not recall the brand name. He owns no other gun, but his father has several sporting guns including a shotgun and a .22 rifle, but no high powered rifle.

He said his hobbies are hunting, fishing, the Little Theater and dancing.

He said that his friends are Mr. and Mrs. JOHN GAUTIER, Mr. GAUTIER is an attorney in Pascagoula, and his wife is an officer of the Young Republicans; Mr. and Mrs. BEN WOOD, who live in Gautier, Mississippi, Mr. WOOD works for Phelps Jewelry Store; and also JIM and GRACE WILSON, WILSON is night superintendent of the Jackson Grain Elevator.

LOFTON listed the following relatives:

Father

AARON ALTON LOFTON,
Sewing machine mechanic,
BVD, Pascagoula, Mississippi

Mother

AGNES LOU NUNNERY LOFTON,
employed at BVD, Pascagoula,
Mississippi

Brother

BILLIE JOE LOFTON, married,
resides Gautier, Mississippi,
and employed Student Director,
Jackson County Junior College,
No other brothers or sisters

Mother's sisters

Mrs. GEORGESPRING, McComb,
Mississippi,
Mrs. HARVEY COWART, Smith-
dale, Mississippi

Mother's brother

H. G. NUNNERY, career air-
man, United States Air Force,
Wright-Patterson Field,
Ohio.

Father's brother

CHARLES LOFTON, Baton Rouge,
Louisiana

Father's sister

Mrs. HORIS RUSHING, Brook-
haven, Mississippi

Half-brothers

P. C. LOFTON, rural route,
Brookhaven, Mississippi

TOM LOFTON, rural route,
Mc Comb, Mississippi

Half sister

EMMA PORTER, address unknown

LOFTON said he has never been arrested and has received
only one traffic ticket in his life.

LOFTON stated that none of his associates resemble
the artist's conceptions mentioned above which had been
shown to him.

~~9~~

31

JN 157-9586

The following description was obtained through observation and interview:

Name	AARON ISAAC LOFTON
Race	White
Sex	Male
Date of birth	10/28/34
Place of birth	Lincoln County, Mississippi
Height	5'11½"
Weight	165
Hair	Sandy-blond
Eyes	Hazel
Complexion	Fair-ruddy
Characteristics	Wears horn-rimmed glasses, smokes Spring or Kent Cigaretts
Army serial numbers	NG 24919772 RA 24919772
Social Security Number	425-56-6202
Education	One year of college and trade schools
Residence	Martin Bluff Road, Gautier, Mississippi

~~10~~

32

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date April 19, 1968

JAMES AIKENS, Superintendent, Welding Department, Ingall's Ship Building Corporation, advised that AARON ISAAC LOFTON works under his direct supervision and that he sees LOFTON on a daily basis. He said that he can say positively that LOFTON has been to work each working day during the month of April. He said that to be even more positive of this he had checked with the Assistant Superintendent and the Assistant agreed with him that he had also seen LOFTON at work each working day this month and specifically on April 4 and 5, 1968.

On 4/17/68 at Pascagoula, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

by SA JAMES J. FILES: yv Date dictated 4/18/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

4/27/68

TELETYPE

FOIA(b)(6)
FOIA(b)(7) - (C)

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI (44-38861), MEMPHIS (44-1987), ATLANTA
FROM: SAC, BIRMINGHAM (44-1740) (P)

MURKIN. CR

RE OKLAHOMA CITY AIRTEL TO BUREAU, APRIL TWENTY FOUR LAST.

BUREAU AGENTS ATTEMPTED TO INTERVIEW [REDACTED]

FBI NUMBER SEVEN ONE SIX EIGHTEEN A, FORMER TOP TEN SUBJECT,
AT DE KALB COUNTY JAIL, FORT PAYNE, ALABAMA THIS DATE. [REDACTED]

REFUSED TO BE INTERVIEWED OR TO DISCUSS ANYTHING WITH AGENTS AND
WAS EXTREMELY UNCOOPERATIVE.

AIR MAIL COPIES TO JACKSON, TAMPA AND OKLAHOMA CITY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

SAC [Signature]

1-Birmingham
1-JACKSON (AM)
1-TAMPA (AM)
1-OKLAHOMA CITY (AM)
RJY:scb
(4)
sch

157-9586-422

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

[Signature]

4/30/68

PLAINTEXT

TELETYPE

URGENT

TO: DIRECTOR (MAIL) (44-38861) AND NEW ORLEANS

FROM: JACKSON (157-9586)

MURKIN

REX P. ARMISTEAD (NA), CHIEF INVESTIGATOR, MISS. HIGHWAY SAFETY PATROL, JACKSON, ADVISED TODAY THAT AFTER VIEWING PHOTOGRAPHS OF JAMES EARL RAY THESE PHOTOGRAPHS CLOSELY RESEMBLE AN INDIVIDUAL HE OBSERVED IN WANDA'S SEVEN SEAS RESTAURANT, NEW ORLEANS, IN DECEMBER, SIXTY SEVEN. ARMISTEAD RECALLED THAT ON THAT PARTICULAR DAY, SEVERAL ARRESTS WERE MADE BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES AT SEVEN SEAS AS A RESULT OF AN INCIDENT INVOLVING A DOG BROUGHT IN BY ONE OF THE CUSTOMERS. A MINOR BRAWL RESULTED AND SEVEN OR EIGHT CUSTOMERS WERE ARRESTED. ARMISTEAD COULD NOT RECALL WHETHER THE INDIVIDUAL RESEMBLING RAY WAS ONE OF THOSE ARRESTED.

NEW ORLEANS EXHIBIT AVAILABLE PHOTOS OF RAY AT SEVEN SEAS RESTAURANT AND CONDUCT INQUIRY AT PD TO IDENTIFY

THOSE ARRESTED. AIRMAIL COPY TO MEMPHIS. END.

1 - Bureau (Mail)

1 - Me

JLP/

(3)

Searched

Serialized

11⁰⁰ AM

B82

FBI NEW ORLS

FBI JKSN MISS

11:00 AM URGENT 4-30-68 BLT
TO DIRECTOR (MAIL) (44-38861) AND NEW ORLEANS
FROM JACKSON (157-9586)
MURKIN

REX P. ARMISTEAD (NA), CHIEF INVESTIGATOR, MISS.
HIGHWAY SAFETY PATROL, JACKSON, ADVISED TODAY THAT AFTER
VIEWING PHOTOGRAPHS OF JAMES EARL RAY THESE PHOTOGRAPHS
CLOSELY RESEMBLE AN INDIVIDUAL HE OBSERVED IN WANDA'S
SEVEN SEAS RESTAURANT, NEW ORLEANS, IN DECEMBER, SIXTY
SEVEN. ARMISTEAD RECALLED THAT ON THAT PARTICULAR DAY,
SEVERAL ARRESTS WERE MADE BY LOCAL AUTHORITIES AT SEVEN
SEAS AS A RESULT OF AN INCIDENT INVOLVING A DOG BROUGHT
IN BY ONE OF THE CUSTOMERS. A MINOR BRAWL RESULTED AND
SEVEN OR EIGHT CUSTOMERS WERE ARRESTED. ARMISTEAD COULD
NOT RECALL WHETHER THE INDIVIDUAL RESEMBLING RAY WAS ONE
OF THOSE ARRESTED.

NEW ORLEANS EXHIBIT AVAILABLE PHOTOS OF RAY AT SEVEN
SEAS RESTAURANT AND CONDUCT INQUIRY AT PD TO IDENTIFY
THOSE ARRESTED. AIRMAIL COPY TO MEMPHIS.

END.

MMW

Searched _____
Serialized _____
Indexed _____
Filed _____

157-9586-421

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

DATE:

FROM : SA JOHN L. PUDDISTER

SUBJECT: MURKIN

On April 11, 1968, Inspector JOSEPH A. SULLIVAN telephonically advised that he did not desire that any negative type investigation, which eliminates local Jackson suspects, be sent to Memphis. He advised that negative type information should be indexed and filed at Jackson rather than be furnished to Memphis.

The attached investigative results concern inquiries at beverage stores, laundries. Each page has been marked for indexing.

1 - Jackson
JLP/brh
(1)

cc marked for indexing

157-9586-420

SEARCHED <i>pb</i>	INDEXED <i>pb</i>
SERIALIZED <i>pb</i>	FILED <i>pb</i>
MAY 1 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	



Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/15/68

MONROE FOSTER, Owner, Foster Beverage Company, West Main Street, Tupelo, Mississippi, advised that on March 20, 1968, he received a shipment of Schlitz Beer from the Schlitz Brewery, Long View, Texas. He stated that he received 840 cases of Hi-cone six packs, packed 24 cans to the case, and 336 cases of 24 cans each packed loose. Mr. FOSTER stated that a check of his inventory reflects that all of this beer which was brewed with a date, March 15, 1968, has been distributed to his customers, and he is now working on beer that was brewed March 20, 1968.

Mr. FOSTER commented that the only beer he purchases from Schlitz is the pop-top cans, commenting that these cans need no can opener to open.

He stated that he serves approximately 130 customers in Lee County and Okolona, Mississippi.

Concerning a brown bag, manufactured by Graham Paper Company, with a trademark "Homestead", he stated that his company does not use these bags, and he does not know if any of his retailers use this type of bag.

On 4/11/68 at Tupelo, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586

FH
by SA FRANCIS G. HONAN/bjk Date dictated 4/11/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Date 4/24/68

HUBERT TOMLINSON, Service Beverage Company, Holly Springs, Mississippi, was located and interviewed at his place of business. TOMLINSON was advised the identity of the interviewing Agents.

TOMLINSON stated that he is a distributor for the Service Beverage Company of Clarksdale, Mississippi, and in conjunction with this employment, he distributes Schlitz Beer in Marshall County, Mississippi, and a protion of the De Soto County, Mississippi area.

TOMLINSON advised that it would have been impossible for him to have distributed any Schlitz Beer in Marshall County or De Soto County before the date March 15, 1968. TOMLINSON explained that the last shipment of Schlitz Beer he received, twelve and sixteen ounce cans, bore the date of March 8, 1968. He pointed out that he has not received any shipment of Schlitz beer with the cans of beer bearing a date subsequent to March 8, 1968.

TOMLINSON stated that any Schlitz beer purchased in De Soto County and bearing a date of March 15, 1968, would have had to be distributed by the Service Beverage Company in Clarksdale, Mississippi.

On 4/15/68 at Holly Springs, Mississippi File # Jackson 157-9586
by SA's RICHARD T. RABIDEAU, and
JOHN DENNIS MILLER/RTR/brh Date dictated 4/19/68

This document contains neither recommendations nor conclusions of the FBI. It is the property of the FBI and is loaned to your agency; it and its contents are not to be distributed outside your agency.

JN 157-9586

JDM/wgj

1

The following investigation was conducted by SA RICHARD T. RABIDEAU and SA JOHN DENNIS MILLER on April 15, 1968:

EDDIE FIORETTI, owner and operator, Corner Package Store, Holly Springs, Mississippi, advised that his package store is the only package store located on the north side of the Square of Holly Springs, Mississippi.

FIORETTI advised that he was working in his place of business on the day that MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR., was killed in Memphis, Tennessee. He advised that he could not state one way or the other whether or not anyone meeting the description of TOM NELSON DAVIS made a purchase in his store. He advised that his failure to recall the existence or nonexistence of such a fact is due to the volume of business which his store does.

FIORETTI emphasized that he did not desire to have his remarks interpreted as meaning that the individual in question did or did not enter his store on the day of the slaying.

He concluded by stating that a Negro male, BAILEY VANDERBILT, was in the store talking to him for a great portion of the afternoon of the KING slaying.

On April 15, 1968, BAILEY VANDERBILT advised he could not state whether or not any particular individual made liquor purchases at EDDIE FIORETTI's store on the Square in Holly Springs, Mississippi. He explained that he pays little if any attention to the customers who enter the store.

On April 15, 1968, WILLARD KUYRKENDOLL, manager, Billups Gas Station, Highway 78, Red Banks, Mississippi,

4

advised that on the day of the KING slaying, he was not working.

On April 15, 1968, PAUL CREDDLE, employee of the above mentioned Billups Gas Station, advised that he was working on the day of the KING slaying. CREDDLE stated that on that day at approximately 4:00 or 5:00 P.M., TOM DAVIS arrived at the station driving a late model white Ford Mustang. CREDDLE stated that DAVIS, who was traveling alone, paid a \$3.00 gas bill and left the station on Highway 78, headed in a northerly direction.

CREDDLE stated he is certain that DAVIS was traveling alone. He continued that he observed no guns in DAVIS' car. He also advised that DAVIS had been drinking but was not "drunk".

He concluded by advising that in the brief conversation he had with DAVIS no mention was made of KING's presence in Memphis, Tennessee.

JN 157-9586

PHC:mah

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA PETER H. CROOKS:

On April 16, 1968, Mrs. VIOLA FINCH, Manager, City Cleaners, 806 Main Street, Moss Point, Mississippi, advised the writer that she had been contacted by an agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation in connection with the type of laundry mark employed by the laundry. She advised that at this time, the agent had asked ~~her~~ if she was acquainted with the name GAULT. She advised that at the time, she did not recall ever hearing this name before; however, she has since recalled one incident where she may have seen this name.

She stated that a white male, whom she described as in his early 30's, height 5' 11", weight 140-145 pounds, build slim, complexion very red, had come into the City Cleaners on April 4, 5, 8, or 9, 1968, and left one pair of jockey shorts, one T-shirt, and an unknown number of shirts to be cleaned to be picked up the following day. She advised that this individual gave the name of ERIC GOFF. She advised that in the band of the jockey shorts and on the back of the collar of the T-shirt, in letters approximately 1/8 of an inch in height, she had noticed the initial E plus one more unrecalled initial and the name GALT ~~OR~~ GAULT. She advised that this individual picked up his shirts on the following day and she has never seen him in the City Cleaners prior to this occasion or following it. She advised that no laundry records are kept at the City Cleaners. She advised that MARTHA BALLENGER was present at the time this individual

JN 157-9586

2

was in the City Cleaners establishment; however, Mrs. BALLENGER was not available today.

On April 17, 1968, Mrs. MARTHA BALLENGER, employee, City Cleaners, 806 Main Street, Moss Point, Mississippi, advised the interviewing agent that she never actually saw the individual that left some clothing to be laundered at the City Cleaners on a date which she recalled as the 8th or 9th of April. She advised that she was at this time working in the shirt section and recalled Mrs. FINCH making some remark about the discrepancy between the name given by the individual GOFF and the name appearing in the shorts and T-shirt. She advised that she herself did not see the name GOFF in the T-shirt or jockey shorts; however, she had seen the name GOFF which corresponded with the name given by the individual in the shirts which he had left. She advised she could furnish no further information in connection with the shirts.

Mrs. BALLENGER and Mrs. FINCH examined the artist's conceptions of GOFF and stated that neither photo looked anything like anyone they had ever seen before.

Jackson 157-9586

FGH/blw

1

The following investigation was conducted by
SA FRANCIS G. HONAN on April 17, 1968, at Fulton, Missis-
sippi:

Mrs. PAULINE WALDON, Office Clerk, Itawamba County Sheriff's Office, Fulton, Mississippi, advised that her records reflect that 1968 Itawamba County, Mississippi, License 29-4700 was issued on April 11, 1968, for a 1962 Ford Galaxie 500, eight cylinder, four door, VIN 2W62X128373, registered to Mrs. PEGGY J. WORKS, Fulton, Mississippi. The tag receipt reflects the 1962 Ford Galaxie was purchased from BILLY WALLACE, Fulton, Mississippi, on April 11, 1968.

Mrs. PEGGY J. WORKS was interviewed at her place of employment, Itawamba Manufacturing Company, Fulton, Mississippi, at which time she stated that her vehicle bearing Itawamba County License 29-4700 is presently in the possession of her husband, RICHARD A. WORKS, who is presently visiting his sister, Mrs. GLENDA LESTER, 605½ Garfield Street, Glendale, California. Mrs. WORKS stated that her husband arrived in Glendale, California, on April 14, 1968, visiting relatives. Mrs. WORKS stated that she did not know when her husband would arrive back in Fulton, Mississippi.

F B I

Date: **4-29-68**Transmit the following in _____
(Type in plaintext or code)Via **Airtel** _____
(Priority)

✓ To: SAC, Jackson

✓ From: Director, FBI

MURKIN

ReDLairtel 4-24-68, referring to JNtel to Bureau dated 4-17-68.

On basis of information furnished by Dallas, Bureau not able to identify referenced Jackson teletype. By return airtel furnish Bureau identifying data.

1 - Memphis (info)

*Handled -
see in airtel to Bam, 4/30/68.*

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 30 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	

157-9586-419

Sent Via _____ M Per _____

FBI JKSN MISS

FBI MIAMI

436PM PM URGENT 4/29/68 CAB
TO ALL SACS - RELAY MESSAGE PLAN
FROM DIRECTOR, 44-38861 1P

MURKIN

ALL OFFICES HAVING LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES IN THEIR TERRITORIES WHICH MAINTAIN UNIDENTIFIED LATENT FINGERPRINTS IN CONNECTION WITH MATTERS UNDER THEIR JURISDICTION SHOULD IMMEDIATELY CONTACT THESE AGENCIES AND REQUEST THAT THE FINGERPRINTS OF SUBJECT JAMES EARL RAY AS SET FORTH ON THE IO BE COMPARED WITH LATENTS OBTAINED SINCE HIS ESCAPE FROM MISSOURI STATE PENITENTIARY ON FOUR TWENTY-THREE SIXTY-SEVEN.

THIS IS FOR THE PURPOSE OF POSSIBLY ESTABLISHING RAY'S PAST WHEREABOUTS AND SOURCE OF FUNDS. LEGATS OTTAWA AND MEXICO CITY REQUESTED TO DO LIKEWISE. ARMED AND DANGEROUS.

END

PGL

FBI JKSN MISS

P

Memorandum to all SAs

157-9586-418

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 29 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Ruckelshaus

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : ALL AGENTS

DATE: 4/29/68

FROM : SAC, JACKSON (157-9586)

SUBJECT: MURKIN

Re Bureau tel to all SAC's, 4/24/68.

Contacts should be maintained with all mass communications media in your territory to insure that there is frequent reference to RAY and his connection with this case.

Since you have previously been advised that JAMES EARL RAY is identical with ERIC STARVO GALT and you have been furnished IO's and Wanted Flyers on RAY, you are to be certain that all appropriate stops have been renewed on JAMES EARL RAY and under all of his known aliases as set forth on the IO's and Wanted Flyers. This is to insure that the Bureau will be immediately notified if the subject is arrested or comes to the attention of authorities with whom stops placed.

Offices covering departure or arrival of overseas flights should have renewed stops, and subject's photograph should be displayed appropriately.

All offices should conduct appropriate investigation at all "hippie" rooming houses and similar establishments to obtain any information whatsoever concerning RAY.

ARMED AND DANGEROUS.



① - 157-9586

1 - Each Agent

JLP/bjk (86) *bjk*

157-9586-417

SEARCHED <i>h</i>	INDEXED <i>h</i>
SERIALIZED <i>h</i>	FILED <i>h</i>
APR 29 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

FBI JKSN MISS

FBI PHOENIX

329 PM URGENT 4-29-68 LYH

TO DALLAS 44-2649

JACKSON ~~44-769~~

wrong file #

LITTLE ROCK 157-1215

SACRAMENTO

FROM PHOENIX 44-371

MURKIN; CR

RE DALLAS TEL APRIL TWENTYFOUR LAST AND SAN FRANCISCO
TEL APRIL TWENTYSIX LAST.

ALL OFFICES DISCONTINUE EFFORTS TO LOCATE R.B. HARRELL
SINCE LATTER HAS BEEN INTERVIEWED BY LOS ANGELES AND DENIES
MAKING ANONYMOUS TELEPHONE CALL TO COCONINO COUNTY SO,
FLAGSTAFF, ARIZONA, APRIL TWENTY LAST.

MEMPHIS ADVISED AIRMAIL.

PENDING

END

KCH

FBI JKSN MISS

P

*Brock advised to discontinue
lead at Morton, Miss
4/29/68*

157-9586-416

SEARCHED <i>h</i>	INDEXED <i>h</i>
SERIALIZED <i>h</i>	FILED <i>h</i>
APR 29 1968	
FBI — JACKSON	

Date received 3/30/68 4/4, 13/68	Received from (name or symbol number) FOIA(b)7 - (D)	Received by SA ROBERT EDWARD LEE
Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in person <input type="checkbox"/> by telephone <input type="checkbox"/> by mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> orally <input type="checkbox"/> recording device <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> written by Informant		
If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent: Dictated <u>4/29/68</u> to <u>Connie M. Bagwell (MB)</u> Transcribed <u>4/29/68</u> Authenticated by Informant _____		Date of Report 4/13/68 Date(s) of activity 3/26, 27, 30/68 4/2, 3, 4, 9/68
Brief description of activity or material <u>Information concerning meetings of the Jones County Chapter of the APWR on 3/26/68; 4/2/68; and 4/9/68.</u>		File where original is located if not attached FOIA(b)7 - (D)

Remarks:

INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ENCLOSED REPORT, IF USED IN A REPORT BEING PREPARED FOR DISSEMINATION, SHOULD BE SUITABLY PARAPHRASED IN ORDER TO ADEQUATELY PROTECT THE IDENTITY OF THIS INFORMANT.

Seven informant reports attached.

FOIA(b)7 - (D)

- 1 - 157-18 (SAM BOWERS)
- 1 - 157-36 (APWR, State)
- 1 - 157-3484 (DEAVOURS NIX)
- 1 - 157-4027 (SPEED LIGHTSEY)
- 1 - 157-4338 (GEORGE POORE, JR.)
- 1 - 157-5512 (BILLY ROY PITTS)
- 1 - 157-7363 (BIRL HINTON)
- 1 - 157-9414 (APWR, Jones County)
- ① - 157-9586 (MURKIN)
- 1 - 157-9542 (SONNY COOLEY)
- 1 - 44-1512 (DABURN)

Block Stamp

157-9586-415

SEARCHED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	INDEXED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
SERIALIZED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	FILED <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
APR 29 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Ruddistal

A separate memo is being placed in the following files:

157-505	LAWRENCE BYRD
157-1954	RUBY SESSUM
157-2473	V. L. LEE
157-2580	Rev. J. E. NIX
157-3643	ELMER HENDRY
157-4054	ANDRE HENDRY
157-4196	Rev. GEORGE MILES
157-4371	Mrs. LESTER THORNTON
157-5409	Mrs. TRAVIS BUCKLEY
157-5484	ROY STRICKLAND
157-5508	Mrs. FRANK LYONS
157-6654	CARL FORD
157-8102	RALPH STRICKLAND
157-8099	JAMES YOUNT
157-8151	BUDDY YOUNT
157-8272	BENTON BROADHEAD
157-8285	LUCILLE YOUNT
157-2983	ROY CAMPBELL
157-536	ERNEST GILBERT
157-6320	JOE DENVER HAWKINS
157-	GEORGE NIX
157-	CHEVIS ODOM (SHERIS M. ODOM)
157-	MARY SESSUM
157-	HOMER SULLIVAN
157-	Mrs. J. D. STEWART

B*
(COVER PAGE)

April 15, 1968
Jones County, Miss.

APWR, JONES COUNTY, MISS., MEETING, 3/26/68:

On 3/30/68, information was received that the Jones County Chapter of the APWR held a meeting on 3/26/68 at the Marion Motor Court, U. S. Highway 11 South, of Laurel, Miss. There were 22 adults and one minor present. The following were observed in attendance at this meeting:

DEAVOURS NIX
SYBIL NIX
RALPH and LUCILLE STRICKLAND
Mr. and Mrs. CHEVIS ODOM
Mr. and Mrs. RUBY SESSUM
(Father of CECIL SESSUM)
MARY SESSUM (Wife of CECIL
SESSUM) and her son
JAMES and LUCILLE YOUNT
SAM BOWERS
Mrs. J. D. STEWART
BENTON BROADHEAD
ANDRE HENDRY
Mrs. FRANK LYONS
Reverend GEORGE MILES
Mrs. TRAVIS BUCKLEY
Mr. ELMER HENDRY
HOMER SULLIVAN
Mr. and Mrs. LAWRENCE BYRD

During the meeting, SAM BOWERS gave a talk about the operation of the APWR and about the trials of CECIL SESSUM in Hattiesburg, Miss., in connection with the firebomb slaying of VERNON FERDINAND DAHMER, SR. BOWERS said that all the people in Forrest County knew about CECIL SESSUM being beaten by the FBI. BOWERS commented that SESSUM had done a lot for freedom and advancement of the white race.

A motion was made that the chapter buy a shotgun to be raffled off to raise money for the attorneys in connection with the future trials at Hattiesburg. This was voted into effect and DEAVOURS NIX was instructed to have 10,000 tickets

printed. The tickets will be sold for \$1 each and the drawing will be on April 30, 1968.

DABURN; BILLY ROY PITTS; SPEED LIGHTSEY:

On 3/30/68, information was received that SPEED LIGHTSEY, former EC, Unit #1, WKKKKOM, Jones County, Miss., was overheard talking with another individual, believed to be a member of the Klan, about the DAHMER case. LIGHTSEY said that BILLY ROY PITTS was given a new Plymouth and \$25,000 by the FBI to testify in the case. He said he was also given \$1600 to send LAURA WELBORN to California while he was in jail.

LIGHTSEY said that BILLY ROY PITTS' [REDACTED]

OKKKK, GEORGE POORE, JR., "SONNY" COOLEY,
BIRL HINTON:

On 3/30/68, information was received that early that date, GEORGE POORE and SONNY COOLEY, were observed talking with BIRL HINTON at John's Cafe. POORE was overheard telling HINTON that he and COOLEY had been to a rally of the old OKKKK on 3/29/68. POORE said that they had been granted a charter for Jones County and had openings for three officers and were trying to talk HINTON into taking the job of investigator. POORE was overheard to state that ERNEST GILBERT, Grand Dragon, State of Miss., and the lady dragon, not identified, would be in Laurel in a few days for the purpose of further organization. Source stated that HINTON did not appear too interested at the time but was heard telling POORE and COOLEY that he would be in touch with them later.

APWR, JONES COUNTY, MISS., CHAPTER,
MEETING, APRIL 2, 1968:

On 4/4/68, information was received that on 4/2/68, a meeting of the Jones County Chapter of the APWR was held at Marion Motor Court on U. S. Highway 11, South of Laurel. There were 26 adults and four children present at this meeting. The following were recognized as being present at this meeting:

DEAVOURS and SYBIL NIX
Mr. and Mrs. GEORGE NIX
Mr. and Mrs. RUBY SESSUM
CECIL SESSUM's son
RALPH and LUCILLE STRICKLAND
JAMES and BUDDY YOUNT
and their two children
Mr. and Mrs. CHEVIS ODOM
and their little boy
Mrs. LESTER THORNTON, wife
of LESTER THORNTON, who
is in jail
SAM BOWERS
Reverend GEORGE MILES
HOMER SULLIVAN
SONNY COOLEY
GEORGE POORE
ANDRE HENDRY
Mrs. TRAVIS BUCKLEY
BENTON BROADHEAD

During this meeting, it was announced that a 12 gauge Winchester shotgun had been purchased for \$115 to be raffled off for the purpose of raising funds for attorney fees in connection with the trials at Hattiesburg, Miss.

BOWERS reported that he had a board made to hold the gun and it had cost \$15. It was also reported that 10,000 tickets had been received and the cost was \$108.50.

During the meeting, the hat was passed and \$16.50 was collected. Source reported that the tickets are to be sold for \$1 each and the drawing is to be on the 30th of April.

TRAVIS BUCKLEY; CARL FORD; BILLY ROY PITTS;
ROY STRICKLAND:

ON 4/4/68, information was received that during the meeting of the APWR, on 4/2/68, that the wife of TRAVIS BUCKLEY had reported that CARL FORD and MERCY QUINN, attorneys for the Klan, had played a tape of a conversation reported to be that of BILLY ROY PITTS, ROY STRICKLAND, and JACK WATKINS, for the judge in Jackson County, Miss. Based on this tape, the judge has indicated he may grant BUCKLEY a new trial.

DEAVOURX NIX said that the judge is asking for a transcript of the Forrest County trials as he has read in the paper about the money PITTS said he had received after testifying in Jackson County. NIX said that PITTS testified he had not been paid anything in Jackson County, but the judge, after reviewing the transcript, may want to charge PITTS with perjury.

Information was received that plans are underway to play this tape for the membership of the APWR on the 19th of April.

BENTON BROADHEAD has arranged for five rallies in the next five weeks. The first, on 4/9/68, is to be at the Robinson Skating Rink at Tucker's Crossing, Highway 15 South.

SAM BOWERS; SPEED LIGHTSEY, BIRL HINTON,
V. L. LEE:

On 4/4/68, it was learned that on 4/3/68, SPEED LIGHTSEY was observed talking with an individual later identified as BIRL HINTON and SAM BOWERS. LIGHTSEY was heard asking BOWERS what he thought about the report that the Black Nationalists would be taking over the South. BOWERS said that in his opinion when the riots got bad up North, the conservatives like EVERETT DIRKSON would be ready to give the Negroes the five states they are asking for just like the Communists planned it. BOWERS stated that if we stop them it will not be legally.

After BOWERS left, LIGHTSEY was overheard telling HINTON that he figured V. L. LEE was responsible for burning the houses of HINTON's father. LIGHTSEY indicated that it was not planned by the WKKKKOM or he (LIGHTSEY) would have known about it. There were some other conversations, but the source was unable to determine the nature of the conversation.

MURKIN; SAM BOWERS:

On 4/4/68, SAM BOWERS was observed in John's Cafe, Laurel, Miss., around 8:00 p.m., talking with another individual, later identified as BIRL HINTON. Source overheard HINTON asking BOWERS what he thought about MARTIN LUTHER KING

being shot, and BOWERS remarked that it was a bad time for it to have happened. BOWERS commented that he would not have shot KING at this time. BOWERS was also heard to make the statement that the "Feds" may have done it to put the heat on the Klan.

APWR, JONES COUNTY CHAPTER MEETING, 4/9/68:

On 4/13/68, information was received that on 4/9/68 a meeting of the Jones County Chapter of the APWR was held at Robinson's Skating Rink, Tucker's Crossing, Highway 15 South of Laurel, Miss. There were about 85 people present. The following were recognized in attendance at the meeting:

ROY CAMPBELL, National President, APWR.

JOE DENVER HAWKINS, Jackson, Miss.

DEAVOURS and SYBIL NIX

SAM BOWERS

Mr. and Mrs. RUBY SESSUM

RALPH and LUCILLE STRICKLAND

JAMES and LUCILLE YOUNT

Mrs. ROY CAMPBELL, Jackson, Miss.

MARY SESSUM, wife of CECIL SESSUM

Mr. and Mrs. BENTON BROADHEAD

Reverend J. E. NIX, Ellisville, Miss.

The first speaker was SYBIL NIX, wife of DEAVOURS NIX, who talked about the tape that is to be played on the 19th of April. This tape is reported to be a conversation between ROY STRICKLAND and JACK WATKINS at the time they were planning the kidnaping of LAWRENCE BYRD.

DEAVOURS NIX talked about the shotgun raffle and reported that SONNY COOLEY has sold 116 tickets already.

He suggested that everybody get busy on the ticket sales.

BOWERS talked about Negroes, Jews, and Communists, and how they would eventually take over this state if the APWR and other organizations did not do something about it.

ROY CAMPBELL had a book of the John Birch Society and read portions of this book, which pointed out how the "Feds" will take over this country by taking away our guns and everything that we could use to protect ourselves with.

The next meeting was to be held at Sandersville, Miss., on 4/16/68.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC [REDACTED]

FROM : SA **ROBIN O. COTTRELL**

SUBJECT: [REDACTED]

DATE: **April 26, 1968**

☒ CI ☐ SI ☐ R (Prob)
☐ PCI ☐ PSI ☐ R
☐

Dates of Contact

3/22; 4/8, 17/68

Titles and File #s on which contacted

**Informant, Burglary of Paula Discount Mart,
Cleveland, Mississippi, 12/23/68 ITSP**

87- ?

URGENT

157-9586

POSSIBLE RACIAL VIOLENCE MAJOR URBAN AREAS

157-399

GENERAL CRIMINAL INFO (OXFORD, MS)

FILE T OXFORD

Purpose and results of contact

☐ NEGATIVE
☒ POSITIVE
☐ STATISTIC

Informant advised on March 22, 1968 that he has not heard of the theft of guns from this company in Cleveland, Miss. He advises that often, persons attempt to "pawn" guns to him which he believes are stolen. He will be alert to obtain serial numbers of any new guns in the future.

RE: MURKIN - Informant advised on April 8, 1968 that he is personally acquainted with **TON NELSON DAVIS**. He was questioned concerning the whereabouts of DAVIS on 4-4-68. Informant advises he does not know, but knows he owns a white Mustang and could be capable of shooting Dr. Martin Luther King., Jr.

RE: POSSIBLE RACIAL VIOLENCE : Informant has no reason to believe any violence will occur in Union or Pontotoc Counties in the next 6 months.

It was learned from **MSHP** Investigator, **BERT E. DUNCAN**, New Albany, Miss. that the above informant shot into a car belonging to a Deputy Sheriff in Pontotoc County on the night of April 24, 1968 because he thought his divorced wife was in the car. There were no injuries, but the car was hit 6 times and informant fled.

☒ Informant certified that he has furnished all information obtained by him since last contact.

Rating

good

Coverage

same

87- ? Assigned to SA CHARLES W. WILMORE

157-399
157-9586

General Criminal (Oxford, MS)
ROC (5)

157-9586-414

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 29 1968	
FBI-JACKSON	
715	11

Date received 3/5, 18/68 4/2, 17/68	Received from (name or symbol number) FOIA(b)7 - (D)	Received by SA DONALD J. CESARE
Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in person <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> by telephone <input type="checkbox"/> by mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> orally <input type="checkbox"/> recording device <input type="checkbox"/> written by Informant		
If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent: Dictated <u>4/24/68</u> to <u>JANET D. HOWERTON</u> Transcribed <u>4/25/68</u> Authenticated by Informant _____		Date of Report <u>4/17/68</u> Date(s) of activity <u>March and April, 1968</u>
Brief description of activity or material <u>Lack of UKA activity in Neshoba County, Miss.</u> <u>and miscellaneous.</u>		File where original is located if not attached FOIA(b)7 - (D)

Remarks:

INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ENCLOSED REPORT, IF BEING USED IN A REPORT BEING PREPARED FOR DISSEMINATION, SHOULD BE SUITABLY PARAPHRASED IN ORDER TO ADEQUATELY PROTECT THE IDENTITY OF THIS INFORMANT.

FOIA(b)7 - (D)

1 - 157-471 (STATE, UKA)
 1 - 157-3731 (UKA, NESHOPA COUNTY)
 ① - 157-9586 (MURKIN)
 1 - 44-1512 (DABURN)

Block Stamp

157-9586-413

SEARCHED <u>12</u>	INDEXED <u>12</u>
SERIALIZED <u>12</u>	FILED <u>12</u>
APR 25 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Reddestal

Jackson Form 2's have been prepared in the following cases and appropriate information reported therein:

157-9318
157-9317
157-9316

COLEMAN HUDNALL
T. J. GEORGE
R. B. CUMBERLAND

B*
(COVER PAGE)

LACK OF UKA ACTIVITY, NESHOPA COUNTY

On 3/5/68 source related that he was not initiating any new attempts to reactivate the Klan in Philadelphia. He states that his efforts to date have met with unsuccessful results and he has not succeeded in recruiting anyone into the Klan since being instructed to do so by JAMES THORNTON, Province Titan, UKA. Source related that NORMAN STEVENS recently has had contact with THORTON and he has expressed a desire to reassociate with the UKA. However, according to the source, THORNTON did not encourage STEVENS in his desire to reassociate. The source related that there is no UKA activity in Philadelphia, Miss. and that all the former members have not indicated any desire to reassociate.

MISCELLANEOUS:

On 3/18/68 the source was contacted regarding any knowledge he may possess concerning the recent rash of church burnings in Meridian, Miss. At the time of the contact the source related that he had heard of no Klan talk regarding these burnings through his contacts with Klansmen within the Philadelphia and Meridian areas of Miss.

On 4/2/68 the source related that the City of Philadelphia had appointed a new chief of police and had gone to Winston County to recruit him. He identified the Chief of Police as (FNU) HOLTON and stated that he had no indication that HOLTON had any Klan connections in Winston County.

On 4/17/68 the source advised that he had no information regarding one ERIC STARVO GALT, HARVEY LOWMEYER, or HARVEY LOWMYER or JOHN WILLARD as having been residents of Neshoba County, Miss. or ever having been a member of Neshoba Klavern, UKA. The source was furnished with a composite description of a white male, and advised that he knew of no one with Klan affiliations who might possess similar physical characteristics.

The source was also advised of the recent travel restrictions placed against SAM BOWERS at Hattiesburg, Miss. and the source related that he would immediately advise the FBI should he observe BOWERS presence in Neshoba County, Miss.

On 4/17/68 the source advised that he could not furnish any Klan information regarding any of the following individuals:

COLEMAN HUDNALL
T. J. GEORGE
R. B. CUMBERLAND

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Memorandum

TO : SAC, JACKSON [REDACTED]

DATE: 4/25/68

FROM : SA DONALD J. CESARE

FOIA(b)7 - (D)

SUBJECT [REDACTED]
CRS

On 4/10/68 [REDACTED] advised that he had no information regarding any past or projected Klan activities in Philadelphia, Miss. He relates that the newly appointed Chief of Police, BOBBY HOLTON, who was formerly on the Louisville PD has "cleaned house" and removed all the old members of the Philadelphia PD. HOLTON'S only appointment to date has been CECIL HEMBREE, a former deputy on the Neshoba County SO. As far as [REDACTED] knows HEMBREE has no present or past Klan connections. [REDACTED] advised that he did not know the full particulars connected with HOLTON'S appointment, but doubted that he would be given a "free rein" in running the Philadelphia PD.

[REDACTED] also advised that CECIL PRICE, former deputy sheriff of Neshoba County, is now employed by the Neshoba County Co-op as a truck driver.

[REDACTED] was unable to furnish any information regarding the following names:

JOHN WILLARD
HARVEY LOWMEYER
HARVEY LOWMYER

[REDACTED]
① - 157-9586 (MURKIN)
① - 157-3731 (NESHOPA COUNTY UKA)
1 - 44-1512 (DABURN)
1 - 157-399 (RACIAL SITUATION)
DJC/jdh
(5)



5010-108-01

Buy U.S. Savings Bonds Regularly on the Payroll Savings Plan

157-9586-412

SEARCHED	INDEXED
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APR 25 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Suddister

[redacted]

He relates that he has never known anyone in Neshoba County with the above mentioned names. In addition, a composite description was furnished to [redacted] pertinent to the MURKIN matter and he was unable to recall any Klan figure, past or present, from within Neshoba County who might possibly possess similar physical characteristics.

[redacted] was again contacted on 4/16/68 and related that he had no information regarding the identity of the persons responsible for the burning of the Mt. Pleasant Baptist Church in Meridian, Miss., which occurred on Easter Sunday morning April 14, 1968. He advised he would be alert for any information he might hear and immediately advise the FBI.

On 4/18/68 [redacted] was advised of the conditions regarding travel restrictions imposed on SAM BOWERS, Imperial Wizard, WKKKKOM, before USC in Hattiesburg, Miss. LATIMER states that should he observe BOWERS in Neshoba County, Miss. he would immediately contact the handling Agent.

[redacted] was asked to comment on the general tenor of the present racial situation in Neshoba County and he advised that he personally felt that conditions have gradually improved during the past two years. By way of explanation he states that Negroes are now employed on city maintenance crews and that jobs are plentiful in the area if an individual is desirous of working. [redacted] in conclusion, stated that he could not foresee any great problems arising in the near future.

[redacted] advised on 4/18/68 that he knew of no one in Neshoba County possessing the last name GALT and knew no one by the name of ERIC STARVO GALT.

SAC, JACKSON [REDACTED]

4/24/68

SA RALPH D. GARDNER

[REDACTED]
RI

On 4/5/68 source stated that he had not attended any meetings but had received a letter from EC W. L. ELLIS, JR., inviting him to travel to Lexington, Miss., for a meeting. Source stated that until his sick relative in the hospital at Ackerman recovers, he will be unable to attend meetings, however, source stated he will remain in the position to furnish reliable information from other members who do attend the meetings. (b) 7 - (D)

Source stated that he had independently determined that very few meetings have been held in view of W. L. ELLIS, JR.'s business obligations.

Source stated that he had moved to "Mrs. COOPER's Apartments", located on Old Highway 35, Kosciusko, Miss., telephone no. 289-1275. Source stated he does not have an apartment number.

On 4/10/68 source advised that he did not know and has never heard of the following individuals:

HARVEY LOWMEYER
ERIC STARVO GALT
JOHN WILLARD

2 - Jackson [REDACTED]

(157-9586)

RDG/bdb

(2)

157-9586-411

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Guddister

Date received 4/9/68	Received from (name or symbol number) <div>FOIA(b)7 - (D)</div>	Received by SA GEORGE P. GAMBLIN
Method of delivery (check appropriate blocks) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> in person <input type="checkbox"/> by telephone <input type="checkbox"/> by mail <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> orally <input type="checkbox"/> recording device <input type="checkbox"/> written by Informant		
If orally furnished and reduced to writing by Agent: Dictated <u>^{Date} 4/18/68</u> to <u>Jennifer Ruth Savell(MB)</u> Transcribed <u>4/24/68</u> Authenticated by Informant _____		Date of Report 4/9/68 Date(s) of activity 4/9/68
Brief description of activity or material <u>Source advised he is not aware of the identity of the assassin of MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.</u>		File where original is located if not attached <div>FOIA(b)7 - (D)</div>

Remarks: INFORMATION CONTAINED IN THE ENCLOSED REPORT, IS USED IN A REPORT BEING PREPARED FOR DISSEMINATION, SHOULD BE SUITABLY PARAPHRASED IN ORDER TO ADEQUATELY PROTECT THE IDENTITY OF THIS INFORMANT.

Copies:

FOIA(b)7 - (D)

1-157-9586 (MURKIN)

Block Stamp

157-9586-410

SEARCHED	INDEXED
SERIALIZED	FILED
APR 24 1968	
FBI - JACKSON	

Ruddister

April 9, 1968
Natchez, Mississippi

MURKIN

Source advised on April 9, 1968, that he was not aware of the identity of the assassin who murdered MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. in Memphis on April 4, 1968. Source stated he did not know of any Klansmen or anyone by the names of ERIC STARVO GALT, JOHN WILLARD, HARVEY LOWMEYER or LOWMYER.

Source advised that he had undergone surgery and would not be available for contact until he has recuperated and released from the hospital. Source requested that he contact the FBI prior to any other meet with representatives of the FBI.

-1*-